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ARAB TIMES

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Basis for international conference

PLO leaders accept UN Resolution 242

ALGIERS, Nov 13. (Agencies): Leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation agreed today after heated debate to accept UN Security Council Resolution 242 — which implicitly recognises Israel — as the basis for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The acceptance means PLO chairman Yasser Arafat won his struggle with hardliners within the leadership over the controversial resolution.

It also means that, if accepted by the full Palestine National Council, one of the preconditions will have been met for United States recognition of the PLO. In accepting the resolution, the PLO had responded to recent calls by the Soviet Union for more Palestinian flexibility.

Resolution 242 calls for an end to hostilities and Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 war. It implicitly recognises Israel by referring to the right of all states in the area to live within secure and recognised borders.

the plenary session of the Palestine National Council, the PLO's top decision-making body.

The 450-member PNC began meeting yesterday and was expected to conclude on Tuesday with a declaration of independence for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The PNC will come out with a political decision and a programme of peace," said PLO spokesman Ahmed Abdul Rahman.

"In the political statement we will adopt all resolutions of the UN Security Council dealing with the Palestinian question. What's more, we will emphasise Resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East."

Strong

Resolution 338, passed on Oct. 22, 1973, during the Arab-Israeli war, calls for an end to the fighting; urges implementation of Resolution 242 and, most importantly, calls for negotiations between Arabs and Israel towards "a just and durable peace in the Middle East."

Objected

Those opposing the resolution have objected to its referring to the future of Palestinians in the occupied territories as "a just settlement of the refugee problem."

The political declaration accepting the resolution was being debated and drafted in committee for presentation to



Arafat (left), Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and the speaker of the PNC Sheikh Abdel Hamid Al Sayeh (right) enter the conference hall hand in hand. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sources close to the talks said that after two days of haggling, it was clear no compromise was possible. Habash finally agreed to note his reservations but bow to the majority within the PNC and not create a major split.

Abdul Rahman said the PNC wanted to adopt the resolutions unanimously, but also was capable of operating by majority rule.

Abdul Rahman told a news conference that the political statement would mention "all United Nations and Security Council resolutions dealing with the Palestine question."

"We will emphasise Resolu-

tions 242 and 338 as the means, as the basis for an international conference. But we will add self-determination, national rights and the participation of the PLO (at the international conference) on an equal footing with the other parties to the conflict in the Middle East," he added.

Resolution

Acknowledging that some PNC members opposed the draft resolution, Abdul Rahman said: "If there is no unanimity, decisions will be taken by democratic majority."

Act against Marxist rebels, Sri Lanka urges public

COLOMBO, Nov 13. (Agencies): The Sri Lankan government appealed to the public today to stop Marxist rebels sabotaging the country's essential services as nine more deaths were reported in rebel-linked violence.

The state-run Lankapuwath news agency quoted a government spokesman as saying: "The public should exercise their right of self-defence as provided by the law."

Paralysed

"Civic-conscious citizens taking action against saboteurs will be rewarded," Lankapuwath said in a report over state radio.

The Marxist People's Liberation Front (JVP) last week called a series of strikes which paralysed businesses and services across the island. It threatened death to anyone defying the call.

Police said nine people, including a soldier, were killed in JVP-linked violence in the past 24 hours across the island.

The government, which has asked tourists to leave because of the unrest, has blamed the front for the deaths of over 500 people since July 1987.

Front leader Rohana Wijeweera today denied the killings, saying his group was not armed.

"The Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna is a party guiding the poor Sri Lankan masses who are leading the freedom struggle of the nation and the country," he was quoted as saying in the Sunday Times of Colombo.

Wijeweera answered questions from newspaper readers on why his party is aiming to topple the government, why it opposes an India-Sri Lanka pact to end a Tamil separatist revolt and the presence of Indian troops, and why it demands President Junius Jayewardene should resign.

He charged the government with betraying the country by inviting "foreign invaders", a total of 52,000 Indian troops now on the island, and setting up provincial councils without consulting the people.

Residents in the south said posters appeared on walls threatening with death people who returned to work in transport, port, health, telecommunications and other sectors.

declared essential by the government.

The posters, signed by the radical People's Patriotic Movement, also threatened anyone who took over the jobs of striking workers.

Smooth

The government has said it would sack employees in essential services, including tea, rubber and coconut plantations, who do not report for duty.

India said yesterday it was sending a police force to Sri Lanka to ensure smooth polling during council elections due in northern and eastern areas next Saturday.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the biggest Tamil rebel group, has threatened to disrupt the poll.

Wijeweera said Indian troops would not leave Sri Lanka voluntarily, whether Sirimavo Bandaranaike of the opposition Freedom Party or the ruling United National Party's Ranasinghe Premadasa won the presidential election scheduled for Dec 19.

Both candidates have pledged to send back Indian troops if they win.

Iran does not want peace, accuses Iraq

BAGHDAD, Nov 13. (Reuters): An Iraqi minister said today that remarks by an Iranian leader saying the Gulf war might resume were "tangible proof of Iran's wicked intentions."

Culture and Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassem, quoted by Baghdad Radio, was commenting on a speech by Iran's military supreme, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Rafsanjani had accused Baghdad of raising "absurd issues" at the UN-mediated Geneva peace talks. Such a situation could not last long, he said in a speech reported by the Iranian news agency IRNA.

Baghdad is blocking peace talks with Iran and accused Islamic authorities in Tehran of "playing for time."

Aziz, in an interview with the West German news magazine Der Spiegel released today ahead of publication, also said the Iraqis were seriously considering diverting the Shatt Al Arab waterway to protect it from Iranian attacks, a proposal originally made by Baghdad in October.

"We are not blocking the talks. We are only against negotiating too hastily," he told the magazine.

He said Iran had agreed to a ceasefire last July after nearly eight years of fighting because of a "total military and moral collapse" and was not in a position to accept the duties accompanying a long-term peace.

Blame

"Either we will reach peace or war might flare up again," Rafsanjani was quoted as saying today.

Jassem said Rafsanjani's comments showed that Iran did not believe in peace and was to blame for the failure of the talks to achieve decisive results.

He said Iraq was keen to strengthen the ceasefire, which took effect in August after eight years of fighting, and "sees Rafsanjani's statements as a dangerous trend which the international community must be aware of."

Tehran's leaders should "give up delivering such irresponsible statements and stop playing around with peace," Jassem said.

The latest round of peace talks ended on Friday with no progress on major issues, although the two countries did agree to exchange sick prisoners of war.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has denied suggestions that

Tehran seeks better ties with Soviets

NICOSIA, Nov 13. (Reuters): Iran wants better ties with the Soviet Union after what it called 10 years of mistakes by Moscow including its intervention in Afghanistan, the Iranian news agency IRNA said.

The agency said Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh that as far as Tehran was concerned there was no obstacle to expanded ties with Moscow.

"We have held talks in the past and made decisions but we never fulfilled them," IRNA yesterday quoted Rafsanjani as saying. The agency said he called on the Soviets to rectify their past mistakes.

Rafsanjani said relations between Iran and the Soviet Union had been clouded because of Moscow's links with Iraq and what he called the Afghan issue.

IRNA, received in Nicosia, quoted Bessmertnykh as admitting there were numerous mistakes in the past decade.

But he said he felt confident that with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's new policies things were bound to improve.

Bessmertnykh said Afghanistan had created a problem for Moscow but it had now adopted what he called a realistic approach to resolve the crisis.

Moscow has suspended its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan because of increased mujahideen activity in the wake of the pullout.

Bessmertnykh said Moscow was keen to promote ties with Iran and invited Rafsanjani to visit Moscow.

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آزاد جمہوریہ فلسطین کے قیام کا علان
کویت کی طرف سے فلسطینی موقف کی حمایت
پاکستان میں انتخابی مہم آج ختم ہو جائے گی
عوام ہمارے ساتھ ہیں
بینظیر بھٹو
ہیڈلبرگ پارٹی کا خاتمہ قریب ہے
نواز شریف
عالمی واقعات پر تبصرے اور برسیات

WEATHER

ATHER cold weather with moderate to fresh north-westerly wind.

at sea: moderate to rough

at water: 1.03 am, 4.13 pm

at water: 9.00 am, 8.47 pm

at: 6.11 am

at: 4.33 pm

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at: 25°C 77°F

at: 19°C 66°F

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at: 12°C 54°F

at: 10°C 50°F

at: 8°C 46°F

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at: 2°C 36°F

at: 0°C 32°F

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at: -4°C 25°F

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INTERNATIONAL

Lebanese civilian shot dead

Hostage drama ends as soldiers overpower gunman

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 13. (AP) Finnish soldiers today overpowered a Palestinian commando after he shot dead a Lebanese hostage, ending a 17-hour drama in which commandos seized a UN peacekeeping outpost, UN officials said.

Timor Goksel, the spokesman for the 5,700-man United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said the gunman was high on drugs or alcohol and stayed awake by cutting himself with a knife and pouring salt into the wounds.

"He got nervous at one point and pumped three bullets into

the head of a Lebanese hostage," said Goksel. "Finnish soldiers immediately jumped on him and subdued him."

The victim was one of two technicians who came to work on a water pump next to the outpost and were taken captive. The other technician suffered a heart attack after the shooting and was being treated by UN doctors at UNIFIL headquarters in Naqura.

Attack

Finnish soldiers wrestled him to the ground, took his weapons and tied him up, ending the 17-hour drama, Goksel said.

The gunman was the last remaining holdout from a five-member Palestinian squad that took the UN outpost about 9 pm yesterday after plans to launch a terror attack in Israel failed, security sources in south Lebanon said.

All the commandos were turned over to the Lebanese Army, Goksel said. The Army has only a token presence in south Lebanon and it was unclear if the commandos would be jailed or given to PLO officials.

"We have no police powers. We are an international force without sovereign powers in the

country. It is not our function" to arrest or jail the commandos, said Goksel.

The outpost is near Taibeh about one mile (two kilometres) from the Israeli border and in Israel's self-declared security zone. The planned attack coincided with a meeting in Algeria of the PLO's legislative arm, the Palestine National Council.

Weapon

Four other commandos, including a woman, were talked into surrendering this morning.

A group of 18 Finnish soldiers entered the outpost, joining the five Finnish soldiers and two

Lebanese who were being held hostage.

The soldiers stacked their weapons in a corner and surrounded the gunman, trying to talk him into surrendering or wear him down to the point of exhaustion, UN officials said.

Goksel said the man was incoherent, apparently intoxicated, and remained awake by cutting his arm with a knife and pouring salt into the wounds.

UN negotiators refused initial commando demands for a UN escort to the port city of Sidon, where Palestinian commandos have military bases.



Dubcek (left) shakes hands with Alessandro Natta, former secretary of Italian Communist Party, on their arrival at Comune Auditorium, in Bologna, Italy. (Reuters wire-photo)

Dubcek gets hero's welcome in Italy

Bologna, Nov 13. (Reuters) Former Czechoslovak reformist leader Alexander Dubcek received a hero's welcome in Italy last night as he began his first trip abroad for 18 years.

But in a speech prepared for delivery today, when he will receive an honorary degree from Bologna University—reason for his visit—Dubcek denounced events in Czechoslovakia since his overthrow following a Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion in 1968.

The invasion crushed his short-lived "Prague Spring" of reforms.

The text of the speech was released in Italian translation yesterday.

Worsening

Dubcek said the two decades since his fall had been "a lesson for us, through the worsening of economic stagnation, sterility and incalculable moral losses."

He said that in Czechoslovakia today "every form of dialogue is practically inadmissible," adding that the authorities only accepted facts "which serve precise and unilateral propaganda aims."

Dubcek said he had no regrets about his experiences in 1968. He declared: "Despite what has been and what has happened to us I would willingly start again where I began before."

He said the "Prague Spring" had been "suffocated" and added:

"I must repeat my total conviction: Without outside intervention in our party and Czechoslovak society, our efforts would have been crowned with success."

Dubcek, looking relaxed and clearly enjoying himself, was feted at a concert in the central city of Bologna, capital of Italy's communist heartland, in his first public appearance since arriving by car from Czechoslovakia late on Friday.

Concert

He was cheered and clapped as he entered the concert hall and happily waved two arms above his head to the crowd.

Dubcek, 66, clasped former Italian Communist Party leader Alessandro Natta in a bear hug embrace before the concert began.

He shook hands and cracked jokes with other guests including Mayor Renzo Imbeni and novelist Umberto Eco, author of "The Name of the Rose."

The way in which Dubcek revelled in his acclamation at the concert—his first public ovation in 20 years—was in sharp contrast to his initial stunned reaction to sudden exposure to the media spotlight earlier yesterday.

When he first emerged from his hotel and ran into jostling photographers and journalists, Dubcek muttered: "What a catastrophe" to his interpreter with a nervous laugh.

Topless sunbathing is getting popular in Miami Beach

MIAMI BEACH, Florida, Nov 13. (UPI) Life guards at Miami Beach say topless sunbathing for women is getting more popular, probably because of a recent influx of tourists from Europe, where it is an accepted practice.

Life guard Len Gambia says that on a weekend day there are anywhere from 25 to 50 topless women in his area alone.

"There are definitely more this year than any other year," Gambia said.

Police chief Ken Glassman said topless sunbathing is against the law in Miami Beach, but it has not been a problem.

"A lot of northern Europeans come here and don't find anything wrong with it. It's not against the law in their countries," Glassman said. "There are no problems caused by this. We're not looking to arrest tourists."

He said arrests are only made if complaints are made, and they are rare. He said the one or two a year usually come from families who don't want their small children exposed to nudity.

European tourism was up 62 percent in the first five months of 1988 over the first five months of 1987, according to the Greater Miami Convention and visitor's bureau.

This month a Danish travel agency booked 1,400 Scandinavian tourists in Miami Beach over the next year.

Miami Beach commissioner Bruce Singer said Americans have to compromise a little if they want Europeans to feel at ease here.

"The city of Miami Beach has become very international in the last 12 months," he said. "To them, it's natural. You do have people who gawk. They don't understand that it's culturally accepted in other countries. People have to become tolerant."

PLO leaders accept UN Resolution 242

(Continued from Page 1)

"There are political differences, not as some people fear or hope, a split," he said. The communists and the pro-Soviet Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine have come out in favour of adopting 242, arguing with Arafat that it is the only way to get the peace process moving.

● KUNA adds: Arafat has declared the creation of a Palestinian democratic state, authorised Palestinian sources said here today.

The sources said Arafat announced this during meetings of the political committee of the PNC.

The sources told KUNA that Arafat has made the following statement in the closed-door session: "Based on the natural rights and international and Arab legitimacy as well as international resolutions on the Palestine problem, including the British mandate, and Resolution No. 181, that stipulates the creation of a Palestinian state, also the right of peoples to self-determination, to which the international society agrees, we declare the Palestine democratic state."

US to grant visa to Arafat

ABU DHABI, Nov 13. (KUNA) The US has told Zehdi Al Terzi, the representative of the PLO at the United Nations, that it would grant entry visa to PLO leader Yasser Arafat to address the international organisation, Al Itihad newspaper reported today.

The paper quoting informed Palestinian sources also said that a copy of the Palestinian document currently being discussed by the Palestine National Council in Algiers has been sent to the Washington administration for study and evaluation by experts at the US State Department for Middle East affairs.

Benazir asks supporters to stop impostors from voting

(Continued from Page 1)

for voters to show identification cards at polling stations.

The government says this is necessary to prevent fraud in a country where past elections have usually been followed by an outcry against rigging.

Benazir's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) counters that millions of its poorer supporters, especially women, do not have the cards and are effectively being disenfranchised.

Benazir, 35-year-old daughter of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, accepted the court decision. But she called on voters without identity cards to stay close to polling stations and stop impostors with fake cards from voting.

"What we have been able to achieve during the proceedings before the superior courts is that we have established that the process of issuing ID cards is a process that has been rigged against the people of Pakistan," she said in a statement.

The government insisted on cards to influence the vote results against the PPP, she said. Even the government's own figure showed "at least 3.7 million registered voters would be disenfranchised although our estimates far exceed this figure."

The identity cards were introduced by Bhutto.

The pro-government Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), formed to oppose Benazir at the polls, postponed its Lahore rally from today to tomorrow. The powerful Punjab Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif will lead a parade through his home town before the meeting, a spokesman said.

Deadline

The other top IDA leaders, former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and former Benazir aide Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, were campaigning in their own constituencies in Sind province.

The official deadline for electioneering has been extended from 5.00 pm to midnight tomorrow.

Sharif pledged to keep Pakistan Islamic to an officially estimated 50,000 people in the country's biggest city, Karachi, last night.

Gunmen fired into the air amid a forest of IDA flags as jubilant supporters chanted "Islamic revolution."

Right-wing religious parties have launched an onslaught on the PPP's Islamic credentials during the campaign, which political analysts said has been marked by the absence of concrete issues.

Sharif told the crowd: "The PPP's funeral will take place on Nov 16."

Police and troops have kept a tight watch on Karachi, where more than 650 people have died in ethnic riots in the past two years.

In general the campaign, the first fought by political parties for 11 years, has been peaceful, with the vast majority of activists respecting their rivals' flags and posters.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chaplin film

LONDON, Nov 13. (Reuters) British director Sir Richard Attenborough is to make a film of the life of Charlie Chaplin after the silent comedy star's family agreed to lend a hand.

Attenborough won permission from Chaplin's widow Oona and his nine surviving children, who had rejected all previous requests to film the life of the comic, born in London 100 years ago next April.

Challenger crew

NEW YORK, Nov 13. (Reuters) The seven Challenger astronauts were conscious for up to 2-1/2 minutes after the space shuttle blew apart in January 1986 and may have witnessed their fatal crash into the sea, Knight-Ridder newspapers said today.

Quoting unnamed investigators, the US newspaper chain and wire service said the crew compartment had remained intact after the booster-rocket failure caused the rest of the shuttle to fall apart.

Explosion

ATHENS, Nov 13. (AP) A powerful bomb explosion at a suburban Athens bar today killed a 20-year-old woman and seriously injured three other people, police said.

The 3 am (0100 GMT) blast occurred at the Krach bar in the Nea Smyrni suburb of the capital, said a police spokesman, who requested anonymity in accordance with Greek practice.

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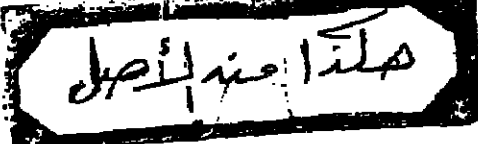
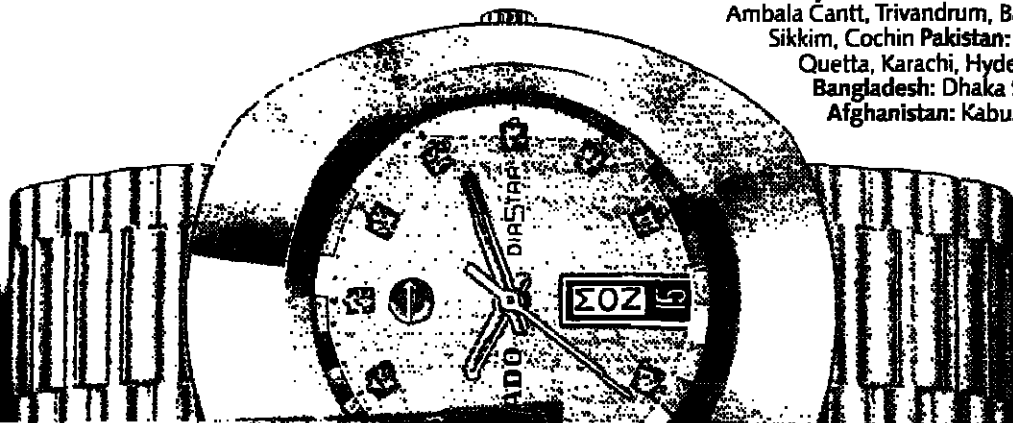
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INTERNATIONAL



Philippine troops set up a roadblock along the route leading to Manila airport in an effort to intensify the search for rebel leader Romulo Kintanar. (Reuter radiophoto)

Aquino upset over top rebel's escape

MANILA, Nov 13, (Reuters): Philippine President Corazon Aquino called senior Army officers to task today for allowing a prominent communist rebel leader to escape, and ordered a full investigation of the incident.

Romulo Kintanar, commander-in-chief of the guerrilla New People's Army (NPA), escaped with his wife on Saturday from the Manila paramilitary constabulary camp while attending a birthday party, an Army spokesman said.

The guerrilla chief, who was facing rebellion charges, was the second major Aquino foe to break out of detention this year.

Security

Last April, dissident Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan escaped with 14 of his guards from a Navy ship where he had been detained after trying to topple Aquino in a bloody coup attempt in August 1987. He remains at large.

Aquino said in a statement that she was "calling to task" her constabulary chief, Major-General Ramon Montano, and other officers in charge of keeping Kintanar under maximum security.

"I have ordered a full-dress investigation into the matter," Aquino added.

Security forces last night set up roadblocks around Manila and military agents today fanned out to suspected rebel hideouts around the capital. But the manhunt failed to yield any trace of the guerrilla leader.

"We don't have any results yet," Colonel Leonardo Orig, operations chief of the Manila Constabulary command, said.

Kintanar and his wife were among seven communist leaders detained in the camp since they were arrested last March.

The military says Kintanar is also the organizer of rebel assassination teams that have brought the 19-year guerrilla war from the countryside to the cities, killing more than 100 soldiers and policemen in Manila attacks the past two years.

The military said the Kintanars escaped while attending a birthday party inside Camp Crame in honour of their former jailor, Major Robelito Comilang.

Militiamen detained after Sudan machine-gun attack

KHARTOUM, Nov 13, (Reuters): Two militiamen have been detained after a machine-gun attack on the home of a Sudanese politician, due to open peace talks with a guerrilla leader in Addis Ababa today, the Khartoum newspaper Alwan reported.

It said the men were members of the Anya-Nya II militia which is fighting alongside government troops in southern Sudan against guerrillas of its former ally, the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

There was no official confirmation of the report.

The attack took place on Thursday before Mohammed Osman Al Mirghani, the leader of Sudan's neo-fundamentalist Islamist party (DUP), left for Ethiopia for talks on a peace deal with SPLA leader John Garang. Noone was hurt in the incident.

The militia broke from the SPLA soon after the start of the civil war in 1983 in protest at what militia leaders said was Garang's Marxist ideology and the SPLA's links with Ethiopia.

Anya-Nya II has on several occasions threatened to change sides again if it was excluded from a peace deal with the SPLA.

New heart drug said to be effective

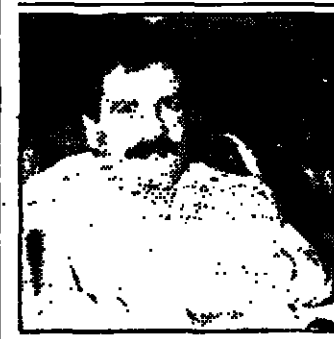
LONDON, Nov 13, (KUNA): A drug claimed to be the most effective treatment for heart attacks was launched here this week, it was reported.

The drug, known as TPA, is the world's first clot-dissolving agent made by Genetic Engineering.

However, its cost is extremely high and British doctors admitted that health authorities could barely afford to pay for it.

It costs £900 for a one-shot infusion, making it 11-times more expensive than Streptokinase, a long established drug, which was combined with aspirin is favoured by most cardiologists, experts said.

A West German pharmaceutical company, Boehringer-Ingelheim, is selling TPA in Europe under license from Genentech, the US firm that developed the product and which has the responsibility for sales in the US.



US abandoned arrest bid, says Abbas

ALGIERS, Nov 13, (UPI): Palestine Liberation Front leader Mohammed Abu Abbas said today he believes US authorities have abandoned efforts to arrest him but shielded away from revealing his hideout.

"Everyone knows that American opinion tries to support our enemy and seeks to provoke fights against us," Abbas said in an interview with United Press International.

"Until we have our own nation, I will have a certain address," Abbas said with a smile. "Even I don't know where it is."

The United States issued an arrest warrant for Abbas for his alleged role as the mastermind of the 1985 hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise ship. During the attack guerrillas loyal to Abbas killed a wheelchair-bound American, Leon Klinghoffer.

"The Americans announced officially that they no longer are planning to capture me," Abbas said. "They announced one year ago that they do not have sufficient proofs that I had committed any offence."

Afghan rebels cut Soviet supply route

ISLAMABAD, Nov 13, (AP): Islamic guerrillas claimed to have cut the strategic Salang Highway between Kabul and the Soviet Union, killing 20 Soviet troops.

Russia Moscow reported yesterday that the Afghan Army had regained control of another highway, a 120-kilometre route crossing Afghanistan eastward toward the border with Pakistan.

The "government Army has regained control of the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway," the radio said, adding that 1,358 rebels were killed in fighting in the provinces of Nangarhar, Paktia, Helmand and Badghis.

Meanwhile, the statement by the Jamiat-e-Islami rebel group reported five guerrillas killed in one attack on the Salang Highway north of Kabul.

The Salang Highway had been the main Red Army departure route following a UN-brokered accord for withdrawal of more than 100,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan. It also is a supply route for military bases in Afghanistan.

Attacks

In the report reaching Jamiat headquarters in the Pakistani frontier city of Peshawar yesterday, Jamiat spokesman Mohammad Shweib claimed the highway was closed.

The report said Islamic rebels had waged attacks along the length of the 400 kilometre highway, from north of the Afghan capital of Kabul to the Soviet border town of Termez.

Shweib said 20 Soviets were killed and 22 tanks destroyed in one attack alone on a convoy last Sunday near the town of Rabatak in the northern province of Baghlan, 150 kilometres south of the Soviet border.

Jamiat-e-Islami said Ahmad Shah Masoud, its Panjshir Valley commander, has closed the road, much of which is tunnelled.

Masoud heads the supervisory council of the north, a group that reportedly is co-ordinating the rebel war in Afghanistan's northern provinces.

Peace

Shweib said the attacks on the Salang in northern Samangan, Baghlan and Parwan provinces had destroyed about 140 Soviet Afghan military vehicles, including tanks armoured personnel carriers and trucks.

The report did not elaborate on casualty figures.

Jamiat leader Burhanuddin Rabbani confirmed the Salang offensive in speaking with reporters after meetings last week in Washington with US President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz.

Asked about the offensive, Rabbani had said, "Our aim is peace. But if the Russians intensify the war. We have no choice."

Until the Salang offensive, rebels in the area had not impeded Soviet troops heading out of the country. But that was before the introduction in early November of surface-to-surface long-range Scud missiles and MiG 27 jets is tantamount to a renewed Soviet invasion.

Syed Ahmad Gailani, leader of the moderate National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, said recently in Peshawar, "We had agreed that we should facilitate the withdrawal."

But he added: "The introduction of new weapons is a clear-cut act of invasion."

The Geneva accord, signed earlier this year, provided for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. The Soviet Union said half of the force left by Aug 15.

The timetable calls for completion of the withdrawal by Feb 15. The Soviet Union said on Nov 4 that it had temporarily suspended the withdrawal, charging the terms of the accord were being broken by the continued arming of the insurgency by the West. The Soviets said the temporary suspension did not constitute a breach of the accord.

In other developments, government-controlled Radio Kabul said yesterday that 10 people were killed in recent attacks on two cities.

Thousands protest in Seoul against Chun

SEOUL, Nov 13, (Reuters): South Korean workers staged a show of strength today against former President Chun Doo Hwan, who looks set to counter corruption charges with allegations that could severely embarrass the present government.

An estimated 30,000 chanting blue-collar workers, labour activists and students marched through Seoul, demanding better working conditions and Chun's arrest, witnesses said.

He is beset with charges of massive corruption, brutality and abuse of power during his eight-year rule.

State radio and several Seoul newspapers quoted a close aide as saying Chun was demanding an interview with President Roh Tae-Woo before announcing a "grave decision."

Trial

The reports said Chun would "tell all" about issues including the operation of political funds in a statement which he said would "send shock waves across the country."

Today's demonstrators surged from Yonsei University campus, where they had rallied to honour the memory of a labour activist who burned himself to death in 1970.

The country's restless students, labour groups and dissidents have called for a bigger rally on Nov 19 to press the government to put Chun on trial.

Roh, an Army general who threw his troops behind Chun's 1979 coup and then held several key posts under him, won a popular mandate last December after distancing himself from his mentor.

Apology

The President is due home tomorrow from an 11-day tour of Asia-Pacific nations to face what many observers say is his biggest political crisis since he took office last February.

Earlier this month, thousands of anti-Chun protesters rioted in the capital, drawing middle class support for the first time since nation-wide pro-democracy protests in June 1987.

Opposition leaders, who earlier appeared ready to accept that Chun would escape trial if he apologised for misdeeds, returned an illegally amassed fortune and quit and capital, toughened their stand this weekend.

Warning of rising political tensions, they demanded Roh immediately start legal proceedings against Chun and his wife.

Jordan revises law on conscription

AMMAN, Nov 13, (AP): Jordan has revised its law on conscription, allowing men to delay completion of their two-year military service until the age of 40, the official Jordanian news agency reported.

The agency, PETRA, quoted the head of military recruitment as saying the new law was endorsed by King Hussein, Prime Minister and Defence Minister Zaid Rifai and armed forces commander Field-Marshal Zeid Bin Shaker.

The new law was presented as a gift from King Hussein to mark his birthday. The King turns 53 tomorrow.

The reform means that a large but unknown number of young Jordanians living abroad can now return home without facing punishment for evading the draft.

The head of the military recruitment office, Mohammad Abdul Rahim Balawneh, said that Jordanians who left the country before Jan 1, 1976 and anytime after that date could now travel and work abroad until they turn 37.

Then the expatriates would have to return to serve to complete two years of military service before reaching 40, he said.

Karen rebels preparing for battle with Burmese junta

MANERPLAW, Nov 13, (AP): After waging a backwater rebellion for four decades, Burma's Karens hope the flight of thousands of students to their remote jungle bases will slot their cause into the broader struggle against a harsh military government in Rangoon.

Since the government crushed a popular uprising in September, more than 5,000 students and others have fled cities in the heartland to the Thai-Burmese border. Here, the Karens have carved out a domain complete with schools, tax collectors, soccer teams and a fighting force said to number 17,000 guerrillas.

The Karen National Union, probably the strongest of a dozen ethnic minority rebel groups, claims to control most of the 2,172 kilometres frontier and administer roughly one million of Burma's 61 million Karens.

The KNU's weapons are purchased on the black market of neighbouring Thailand with income largely derived from taxes on massive, cross-border smuggling.

Students

"The Burmese population will now have a better view of the ethnic revolutionary groups because of the students," KNU president Bo Mya said in an interview. "Together with the students and God's help we will win the war."

Karen leaders also say the recent mass killings of demonstrators and other human rights violations in Burma may make the international community and the majority Burmese realise they and other ethnic minorities have had just cause in fighting the Rangoon government.

At the Karen base of Kler Dey, 620 of the students live in a crowded dormitory-like structure, most of them having arrived with only the clothes on their back. A doctor says there are no mosquito nets to go around and the food—rice, bean soup and fish paste—is inadequate although little different from that eaten by the Karen guerrillas.

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Kuwait reiterates support for Palestinian cause

KUWAIT, Nov. 13. (KUNA): Kuwait today reiterates its support for the Palestinian cause and expressed confidence that the PNC extraordinary session will yield practical resolutions to foster the Palestinian struggle and establish a Palestinian state under PLO leadership.

The statement delivered by State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed came after the Cabinet's weekly meeting under the chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

Al Rashed stated that talks between HH the Amir and King Hussein of Jordan were reviewed. The king visited the country last Tuesday to discuss Palestinian uprising, bilateral ties and Arab issues.

Message

The council was also informed about the message the Amir received from PLO chairman Yasser Arafat concerning the Palestinian struggle in the occupied Arab lands.

Al Rashed added that Sheikh Saad reviewed results of his visit

to Saudi Arabia which ended yesterday. He also discussed with King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz on developing bilateral relations and co-operation, peace efforts, ways of backing the Palestinian uprising and efforts to solve the Lebanese crisis.

Sheikh Saad discussed details of the bilateral agreement the two countries signed on protecting rights of citizens of the two countries in the divided neutral zone.

Sheikh Saad also informed the council about the joint ministerial committee that was formed which groups the countries' ministers of foreign affairs, interior and oil. The committee will follow on bilateral co-operation issues.

Strong
The Cabinet praised Sheikh Saad's efforts and expressed its satisfaction with his positive results emphasising the strong Kuwait-Saudi relations and importance of such contacts.

Al Rashed said Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed discussed Iranian Deputy Foreign

Minister Ali Besharati's visit to Kuwait and the message he conveyed to the Amir.

Sheikh Sabah also detailed his talks with the Iranian official on developments in the Gulf region, Iraq-Iran peace talks and bilateral relations.

Reviewing political affairs and developments in the Arab region, the council discussed reports of the Palestine National Council's (PNC) extraordinary session, convening currently in Algeria. The Cabinet also affirmed Kuwait's support for the Palestinian struggle.

The council approved the allocation of \$1 million to finance operations of the UN observers assigned to monitor the Gulf war truce in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Donate
The council also agreed to donate another \$1 million to the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to enable it continue its humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people.

Al Rashed also said several local issues were discussed.

50,910 workers enter Kuwait

MOHAMMED Shabnan Al Thamer, assistant Undersecretary for the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, said that 50,910 workers entered Kuwait by official permits between January and October.

In an interview published yesterday in a local daily Al Thamer said that the ministry issued 71,623 work permits this year as compared with 60,798 last year. Last year only 48,807 workers entered Kuwait.

Compensation
The current labour law entitles a worker to annual his legal compensation if it is proved by ministerial investigations that the employer did not provide his employee with all basic and safety requirements, the official said.

Regulations lower prices of shrimp

THE availability of shrimp in the local market in large quantities and at low prices is attributed to the success of regulations that prohibit shrimp fishing in certain areas and times of the year.

The director of the Fish Wealth Department at the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Wealth, Adnan Al Rishoud said that the authority issued regulations prohibiting shrimp fishing for five to seven months of the year.

Local
Most shrimp available in the local market are Kuwaiti shrimp. Some are from Saudi regional waters. Local production amounted to 350 tons weekly. After meeting needs of the local market surplus shrimp are exported, he said.

The end of the Iran-Iraq war will positively contribute to better shrimp fishing during the season next year, Al Rishoud added.

Civil defence volunteers to be trained

KUWAIT'S Civil Defence Department has announced intensified preparations to begin theoretical and practical training for Civil Defence volunteers, according to Lieut. Col. Murtak Munawar, director of training at the department.

In an interview with the Ministry of Interior magazine "Al Dakhliah" Munawar said that the first batch of 250 to 300 volunteers will participate in the training course.

Volunteers will be summoned following the allotment of training centres in different areas.

Technical
Training courses will cover security aspects, some technical work such as electrical repairs, telecommunications, mechanical debris lifting, nursing and fire fighting.

The Civil Defence Department in co-operation with the Ministry of Defence will begin an intensified security programme, he said.

Wife charged with torture

A 20-year-old woman has been referred to the General Prosecution on the charge of torturing her 70-year-old husband and inflicting injuries on delicate parts of his body.

Investigations revealed that the woman, apparently forced into the marriage, had in one instance tried to literally pull off a delicate organ of her husband.

Kuwait ready to confront terrorist acts

KUWAIT is ready to confront and challenge any kind of terrorism, Minister of State for Service Affairs Issa Al Mazidi said yesterday.

"Security measures recently enforced by Kuwait to safeguard the safety of passengers, aircraft and installations at Kuwait International Airport have proved sufficient to abort any kind of terrorist attempts," Mazidi said in an interview with the daily, Al Rai Al Aam.

Measures
Al Mazidi, who is head of the Supreme Council of Aviation, indicated that the anti-terrorism measures are the result of co-operation between the Ministry of Interior and other government departments.

The official added that the ministry has built a new runway at the airport. The airport has been provided with the latest in aviation equipment. Airport I has also been modernised and the building equipped with a number of halls and separate counters for different airlines.

Medical service fees remain under study

THE proposed fees for public medical services which have been studied remain to be endorsed pending further consideration, according to an authoritative source at the Ministry of Public Health.

Speaking to a local daily, Ibrahim Al Mudfi, acting assistant undersecretary for medications and medical equipment at the Ministry of Public Health, said that the ministry had earlier requested funds to replenish existing stock supplies of some medication.

Thanks to a contribution from the Al Babtain family, the ministry will soon open the Burns Treatment Unit in Shuwaikh Health Area.

Entrance test

THE common entrance test for Doon, Lowdale, Sana'a and Welham schools will be held at the Indian Embassy premises on 20th November from 1000 hours. Those candidates who have got their admission cards and are taking this test are requested to report to the embassy on the above date.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

More gold imported

BAHRAIN imported more gold, but fewer newspapers and magazines last year, according to new official figures. Gold imports increased from 2,054 kg in 1986 to 2,698 kg in 1987. Switzerland supplied the largest amount of gold to Bahrain, with 1,235 kg, followed by Holland with 898 kg.

The value of newspapers and magazines imported to Bahrain decreased from BD744,763 in 1986 to BD636,597 in 1987. Nearly half the total (BD258,231) came from the United Arab Emirates followed by publications from Kuwait (BD91,835), Saudi Arabia (BD76,405) and Britain (BD72,245).

BMB meeting scheduled

MINISTER of Education Dr Ali Fakhr will deliver the keynote address of the Bahrain Medical Bulletin's (BMB) tenth anniversary meeting to be held Dec 7-8 at the College of Medicine and Medical Sciences. The minister will speak on the importance of research in development.

The anniversary celebrations will be held under the patronage of Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa. A three-man delegation from the British Medical Journal, headed by Dr Bell Whimster, will lead the seminar.

According to Dr Ali Bareeq, chief editor of BMB the first day's session will be exclusively for authors. Thirty-five medical writers are expected to attend. The second day will be attended by about 25 editors of medical journals from United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain.

The participants will discuss editorial needs, research and methods of writing on medical topics.

25 youths arrested for auto thefts

SECURITY sources were quoted in a local daily as saying they arrested 25 youths accused of auto thefts around the Sabah Al Salem District.

The youths confessed to a number of incidents involving stolen cars which had been reported missing by their owners, the daily added.

All the suspects have been referred to the juvenile authorities for prosecution.

Iraq's direct-dial links abroad restored

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Nov. 13. (AP): Iraq has restored direct-dial telephone links with foreign countries, almost three months after a ceasefire took effect in the eight-year Gulf war.

APTT official said on Sunday that the direct-dial service resumed yesterday and calls in and out of Iraq will no longer have to be handled by an operator.

The direct-dial service was cut shortly after the Iraq-Iran war started in 1980.

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Father in kidnap case facing perjury charges

ABU DHABI, Nov. 13. (AP): A court today adjourned the trial of two Irishmen accused of attempting to kidnap a 5-year-old girl in a custody dispute between her Irish mother and Jordanian father.

The Criminal Court in Khor Fakkan, 220 kilometres (138 miles) from Abu Dhabi, is to resume the hearing on Thursday, court sources said.

The court also ordered the public prosecutor to bring perjury charges against the girl's father, Samir Nasser, for giving conflicting testimony in the case, the sources said.

The child, Nadine Nasser, was in court but was not required to testify, they said.

Gerald Flynn, 25, and Dennis Dennehy, 38, both from Dublin, Ireland, were charged with attempting to kidnap Nadine from her Jordanian father, a physician working in the UAE.

They planned to return the girl to her mother, Ann McManus, a nurse in Dublin.

Nasser said he was awarded custody of the child but was unable to produce the custody order he said was obtained from a Jordanian court, the sources said.

Teresa Juiy, 32, from the Philippines, Nasser's current wife, told the court the two Irishmen burst into their home on Sept 3 and tied them up with tape.

She said Nadine hugged her father before leaving and asked the two men not to hurt him, adding that the Irishmen promised to have them both freed within six hours.

Flynn and Dennehy were arrested a few hours later before they could reach Abu Dhabi airport. Earlier reports of the case have said Nasser managed to alert police.

New design for driving licence

THE design of Kuwait driver's licences will be changed, according to a local daily.

A design will be selected based on the recommendations of an ad-hoc committee.

The committee, chaired by the director-general of the General Traffic Department, will consider different design formats based on the patterns used in Europe and America.

The department is currently appointing and transferring high-ranking officials to various traffic branches at the six governorates.

The reorganisation of these officials is due to the vacancy of the deputy director-general's post, a position made vacant by the retirement of Brigadier Sager Al Jaser.

Officials begin evacuating 400 homes

THE Public Housing Authority began evacuating the 400 homes in block No. 1 of the Dhahr housing area where several cave-ins were reported, according to Al Rai Aam newspaper.

The authority provided flats for the evacuated citizens in Sabah Al Salem suburb, the daily reported.

Persuade

Some displaced citizens refused to move to the flats. They claimed that they had spent large amounts to furnish and maintain their houses in the Dhahr area.

The authority has to request the help of the security personnel to persuade these citizens to leave. The authority will evacuate unsafe houses this week in the interest of the safety of the citizens, the daily reported.

Commemorative stamps issued

KUWAIT, Nov. 13. (KUNA): The Ministry of Communications announced today the issue of a new set of commemorative postage stamps on the occasion of the "the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people."

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Rico: total entertainer



Louna: cult figure

Filipino singing star arrives in Kuwait

By Fathima Ahmed

THE well-known Filipino singer Rico J. Puno yesterday arrived in Kuwait with popular artist Louna A. Pal to take part in a series of concerts on Thursday and Friday.

Rico is a household name in the Philippines. Called "the total entertainer," he has recorded 16 albums including "Time After Time," a record he made in the UK last year.

He has starred in seven films and has appeared at several live shows in Europe, America and the Gulf. Rico has performed in Oman, Dubai and Bahrain. He revisited Bahrain in February this year and intends to revisit the region for the next five years.

"My mission is to make my people happy through music," he told reporters yesterday at a news conference. His music is peppered with his own brand of humour.

It is said that "You'll laugh with Rico, even if the joke is on you."

If you mix Presley, Davis, Sinatra and Tom Jones, you'll get Rico's music. His group is reminiscent of Sinatra's Rat Pack. A multi-award winner, he is considered to be the "most dynamic performer," credited with changing the music scene in the Philippines.

Louna Pal, who won the 1986 Grand Prix at the Dresden Music Festival, has become the most popular singer in her country. This is Louna's second visit to Kuwait. Last year, she performed at the Hajd Saye '87, organised by KAPILKU-FLASSIK.

At the Kuwait concert, both singers will present their hits and will consider requests from the audience.

The Arab Times will profile the two singers in tomorrow's issue.



Dr Ismail Ilkin Essen receiving the keys to the new Pajero from Anwar Al Mulla, deputy chairman of Al Mulla Group, as family members and group officials look on.

Doctor wins first prize in draw

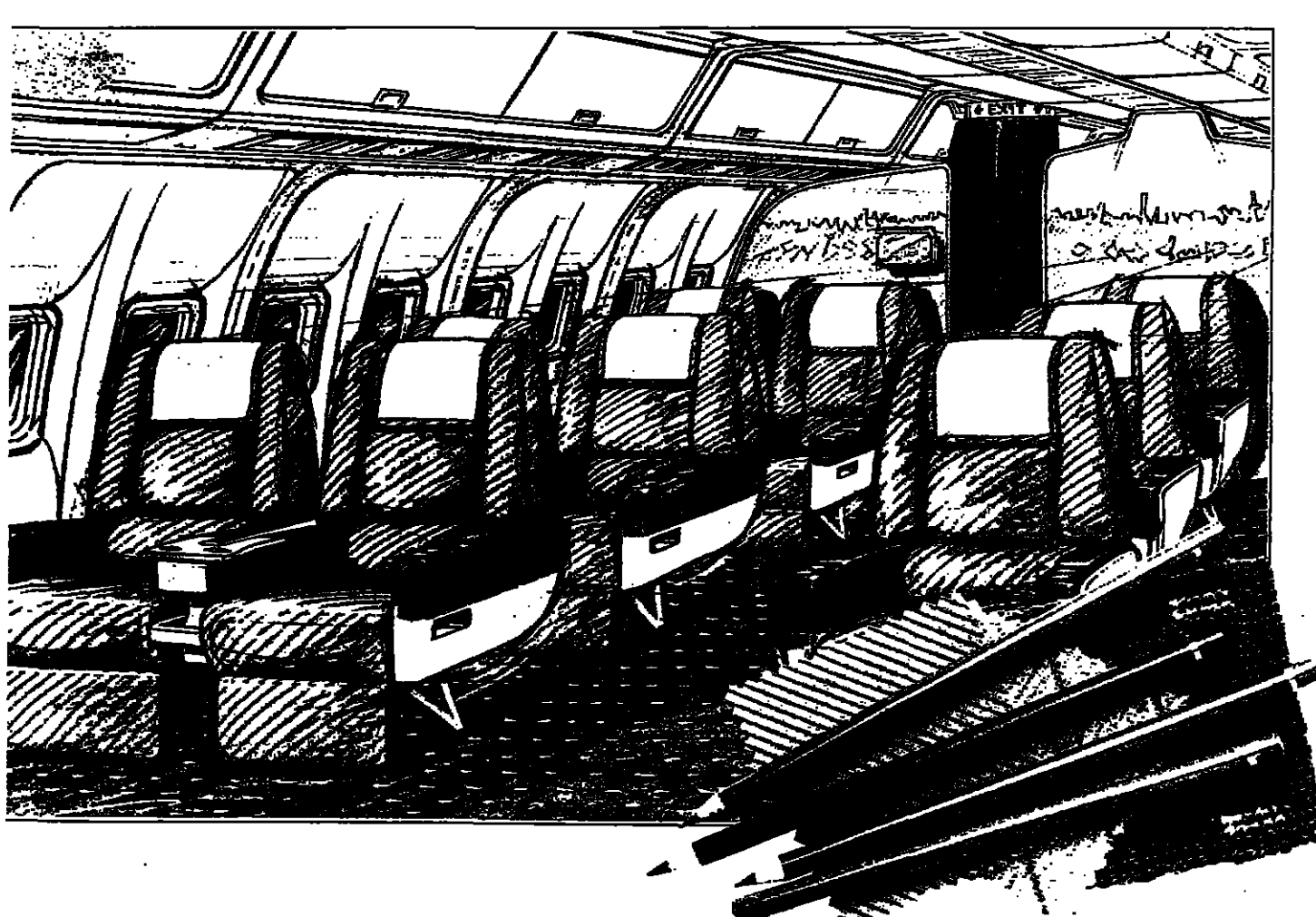
DR Ismail Ilkin Essen won the first prize in the grand draw at the 1989 Al Mulla Mitsubishi Motor Show on Nov 8 at the Al Rai automotive showroom of Al Mulla Group.

He won a Mitsubishi Pajero.

Jaber Al Sabah won second prize, a 50 per cent payment on a L-300 bus.

The draw was attended by thousands of customers and car enthusiasts and was supervised by representatives of the ministries of Commerce and Interior.

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By Fathima Ahmed

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Life is for sharing

One has yet understood life completely. Discussing it is skimming the surface, looking at some of the things that affect you like in Apna Jahan (Our World) — a poignant story of Shanti's (Deepa Naval) efforts to come to terms with a tragic set of events.

"I lost my parents; my husband deserted me, and now I am looking after my disabled child," Shanti tells Anil, a paying guest in her house who shows an interest toward her.

Apna Jahan deals with physical disability and Shanti's lone battle to make life comfortable for her son — Ajay, who can't talk, walk or respond to her. Ajay's disability is not specified, perhaps it is paraplegia or brain damage. But Shanti's affection grows by the minute as it were, engulfing her, snatching her away from reality.

Pain

Writers Surendra Prakash and Subrata Bose also touch on mental disability — the stilted attitude of people who shun and loathe the terrible tragedy. Again, they touch the surface. Nevertheless, they make an

optimistic point: life is for living, sharing and enjoying, even if it means compromising. Adapting and adjusting to life and taking a risk is what Apna Jahan is all about.

There are dramatic moments of extreme pain when Anil, Shanti's second husband, discovers that he has trapped himself in a hopeless situation and tries to get rid "of the menace" — Ajay, the helpless child, the pivot of Shanti's attention. Then he repents — a sequence sensitively handled by director Subrata Bose.

Anil suffers from another form of disability — a selfish urge to have Shanti to himself. It seems harsh to say Anil is selfish — he isn't because he "accepts" Shanti along with her problems. But wanting differs from sharing. As he tells Shanti: "Then, things were different."

So they were. The writers focus on how difficult it is to share — to give

unquestioningly and ask nothing in return. Once Anil starts sharing, his misery evaporates. But how many can share? Not many. Shanti's first husband Manohar deserted her because his dreams were shattered.

Cure

Apna Jahan tackles the theme sympathetically even humanely but fails in drawing the line, dragging the film into avoidable pitfalls.

Another disastrous aspect is Ajay's miraculous cure — though everyone would want to see it happen, that is not always the case, and by resorting to a gimmick the filmmakers defeat the purpose, perhaps it was an urge to end the film on a happy note.

There are other minor hiccups like needless recourse of songs, using much footage, when Annu Malik's music was doing the trick. Judicious editing would have made a better

film. Naseeruddin Shah, as has become customary, turns in a fascinating performance; Deepa Naval's interpretation of Shanti is realistically sensitive.

A word of caution: film buffs who prefer light-hearted movies should avoid the film — it is very depressing, but this doesn't make it uninteresting, despite its defects.

Mar Mitenge

To clear the air, let's look at an escapist movie: Mar Mitenge, the latest pot boiler, belonging to the "nonsensical entertainers" category. Switch off your brain and pop out your eyes and toe the line — laugh or cry — at the tomfoolery.

There is no head or tail in the story of Ram and Lakshman (not of Ramayana) living in kalyug. Because of the smile, Lakshman turns up each time Ram is in trouble and vice

versa. Mission: revenge.

The avengers catch the ball: those not too happy with frequent football matches on KTV can learn to cope with soccer.

Ram and Lakshman play soccer — a two-man team playing against a six-man team of able-bodied goons — and win the match by five goals. And as the human "balls" hit the net the commentator Akbar (Asrani), thrilled to bits, shouts "G.O.A.L.", "GOOOOAAAAA-L....". Sounds better?

There is more comedy, the sort that makes some wince at someone's distorted sense of humour but probably makes someone else laugh. Villains like Shakti Kapoor and Kader Khan have turned to comedy, perhaps, much to the chagrin of comics like Asrani.

But then, when one is looking at escapist cinema, one needs to swallow the pill. Mar Mitenge is a bitter pill but palatable — in parts.

The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwania. Tel: 471-2900.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Dabdoob Al Musiqar: Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Qulob Baidah: Arabic serial
10.45 Good Morning
11.00 Dars Khussousi:
12.00 News Summary
12.15 Israr Al Bahar.
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Ra'ad Al Amlaq: cartoons
5.15 Mama Anisa and

Children
6.00 Islam Wal Insan: historical serial
7.00 News Summary
7.20 Songs and Music
7.50 Quran and Science
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.55 Makaan Fi Al Qalb:
10.45 Al Muhajirin: The Refugees. Arabic play.
12.00 News Summary
12.05 World News via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoons
6.30 The Friends of My

Friends: this week's show looks at the life of children in Greece.
7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news.
7.30 Out of This World: "A.K.A. Dad."
8.00 News in English
8.40 Miami Vice: "The Big Thaw." Crockett and Tubbs become unwilling babysitters — and keep watch over a frozen body.
9.30 In Search Of: The Ice Age....
10.00 You Can't Take It With You: Starring: Harry Morgan. Comedy.
10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Body and Soul."
11.30 News Summary
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

WHAT'S ON

CINEMA

Agatha
NOV 19/20 (6.30 pm): Feature film. Agatha, a fictional solution to the real-life mystery of Agatha Christie's disappearance in 1926, will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriyah. It stars Dustin Hoffman and Vanessa Redgrave. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512/2533204.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association
NOV 15: 8 pm. All members of the German speaking community and their guests are requested to attend a special evening on Tuesday, Nov 15, at 8 pm at Al Andalus Supper club, Holiday Inn Hotel. Tickets available at German Embassy, School, Library and the hotel.

EXHIBITION

Alghani — GM Motorshow
UNTIL THURSDAY: 9.30 am - 1 pm; 4 - 8 pm: a full range of 1989 GM cars will be displayed at the Tent, SAS Hotel. All are welcome.

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Makkah St., F'heel
New Khaitan
Al Fahad Pharmacy
New Khaitan
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Co-operative Society

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Police Academy V
Starring: Bubba Smith, Janet Smith
Al Salmiya
Al Tahaddi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Farouk Fishawi, Farid Shawki
Al Hamra
Ighthal Madrasah (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Hisham Salim, Sabinin Devis
Malaf Saniya Sharawi (Arabic)
Starring: Nadiyah Al Jundi, Farouk Fishawi, Kamal Shinnawi
Al Firdous
Hum Tere Ashiq Hain (Hindi)
Starring: Jeetendra, Hema Malini, Amjad Khan

Fahad Open-Air
Daku Hasina (Hindi)
Al Fahad
Night Stick
Al Jahra
Supergirl
Granada
The Secret of My Success
Sutabikhat
Oasis of the Lost Woman
Al Jeeb
Pardesi (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Man Hunt

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.50 am
Zuhr	11.32
Asr	2.33 pm
Maghreb	4.53
Isha	6.13



Indian herbal queen Shahnaz Hussain held a beauty demonstration for ladies at a reception hosted by Mrs Chayya Jha, wife of the Indian Ambassador to Kuwait, on Saturday evening. Shahnaz, who is a frequent visitor to Kuwait, has won several awards for popularising herbal skin and hair care products in India, Europe and America. Well-known author Barbara Cartland is one of her regular clients. Above: Shahnaz with some of the ladies who attended the reception-cum-demonstration.

Adventures of Brer Rabbit

BRER RABBIT, the Sounds Great production of the Walt Disney film Song of the South, opened on Saturday night at the Universal American School theatre.

A play for children, it tells the story of how Brer Fox tries to outwit Brer Rabbit and vice versa. Along the way, they sing,

dance and attend a pop concert. The children are invited to "hiss and boo" at Brer Fox. Mohammad Abuljebain plays Brer Fox and Nacsh Hameed plays the title role.

The play is directed by Ken Winston and will run until Nov 18. Tickets available from the box-office at the theatre.



A scene from the play.

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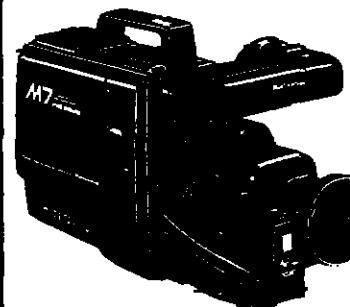
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

TO CONQUER without risk is to triumph without glory.
— Pierre Corneille, French dramatist (1606-1684).

Pakistan election

Powerful military watching warily

By Sheila Teft

KARACHI, Pakistan: As Pakistan moves toward general elections on Nov 16, the country's powerful military is watching warily from the wings.

Wary of the politicisation of the armed forces under former President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, the military is not anxious to take control in another round of martial law. But it is also distrustful of civilian rule in a country torn by ethnic strife and threats on its borders.

Unless widespread unrest breaks out, the military seems ready to let elections go ahead. Western diplomats say.

But many politicians expect the military to pull strings behind the scene to shape a new government.

Since the death of President Zia and 10 top military officials in a plane crash in mid-August, a new group of professional, apolitical generals has taken charge of the armed forces. Still, the Army remains the key power broker in Pakistani politics.

"No person has come into the corridors of power without the support, patronage, and consent of the Army," says Sardar Sherbaz Mazari, an influential opposition leader from Baluchistan. "It's very naive to think that whoever wins the election will be the one in authority."

Indeed, observers say the jockeying for military support has already begun.

Benazir Bhutto — daughter of the late prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, overthrown by Zia in 1977 and later executed — is favoured to win free elections. Benazir, who built her political platform calling for revenge against Zia, is now taking a more conciliatory line toward the military.

Benazir hopes to calm Army fears about her populist politics and a possible return to the chaotic policies of her father. She has moderated the calls by her Pakistan People's Party for socialism, suspended criticism of the United States, and endorsed Pakistan's support for Afghan rebels.

"The mellowness, moderation, and pragmatism of Benazir shows that she's come to accept the fact that no political party or leadership can hope to come to power without the support of the Army," said a one-time Benazir ally.

Advisers close to Benazir admit she will have to satisfy the military. But if she is too accommodating in forming a new government, she risks alienating her traditional supporters.

"This is a crucial time," says one of her lieutenants. "The slightest wrong move can destroy all of the opportunities from this election."

Brazil's constitution comes under test

By Roger Atwood

RIO DE JANEIRO, (Reuters): A bloody clash between striking steel workers and the Army has laid bare conflicts in Brazil's new constitution, political analysts said on Friday.

Barely a month old, the reform constitution guarantees the right to strike and calls for other benefits that the workers at the Volta Redonda Steel Mill, Latin America's biggest, demand.

Troops stormed the state-owned plant on Wednesday night, killing three people and ending a three-day siege by some 3,000 workers of the mills steel foundry.

Union leaders accused the Army, which said it was acting on President Jose Sarney's orders, of trampling on the new constitution's labour provisions.

But authorities said the troops were acting in accordance with another constitutional clause which gives the armed forces the right to preserve law and order.

The Army will fulfil its constitutional mission to guarantee law and order, whenever the circumstances demand it and however tough its actions may be," the Army ministry said.

The Army said its troops had stopped "a true operation of guerrilla warfare" led by armed strikers. Workers denied they were armed.

Problems ahead for president-elect

By William Scally

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): President-elect George Bush is taking a conciliatory approach to Congress as he prepares to take office but his stands on key issues could spell problems ahead, Congressional analysts say.

Democrats strengthened their hold on both the Senate and House of Representatives in Tuesday's general election. Shut out of the White House again, they will be promoting their own agenda in Congress with an eye to the 1992 election.

Relations

Amid expectations that the huge federal budget deficit will produce a major conflict early in his administration, Bush, who takes office on Jan 20, seems eager to get his relations with Congress on a friendly footing.

Although he had attacked Congress in his speeches, he said after his election: "I don't think I was particularly in a Congress-bashing mode through most of the campaign."

Bush, who served four years as a member of the House, pledged to "do everything I can to have good and open friendly relations with the United States Congress."

By Deborah Zabarenko

AUSTIN, Texas, (Reuters): Lloyd Bentsen, the Democratic vice-presidential candidate who often outshone standardbearer Michael Dukakis in the 1988 campaign, returns to the Senate as an election winner.

That the Democratic ticket lost in Tuesday's US presidential election seemed almost beside the point as Bentsen and his campaign staff headed back to Washington after he won re-election to his Senate seat by a wide margin.

Winner

The senior senator from Texas, long a power on Capitol Hill, will take up the reins as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee with enhanced stature after a sterling campaign performance that was widely hailed as more presidential than either Dukakis or president-elect George Bush.

Reluctant

Still the military will be reluctant to withdraw from politics, for it has vested interests to protect in Pakistan's uneasy political climate.

Under Zia, officers benefited from government largesse and important appointments in politics and industry. Many military officials got rich through arms and drug smuggling and corruption in defence purchases, political observers say.

Additionally, the Army is uneasy about civilian control that could trigger new turmoil in the months ahead. In a speech recently to the officer corps, Gen Mirza Aslam Baig, the new Army chief, urged that government decisions "carry the collective thinking of all concerned."

Observers say his statement underscores the Army's intent to maintain a prominent role. "The day the government stops consulting the Army in these matters, the vacuum starts, and the Army starts suiting on its own," said a retired military officer who remains involved in the government. "And that's when there's danger."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

Patrol

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the square mile (2.5 square km) of land.

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"When the firing started at night, I thought it was thunder," she said. "I was wrong."

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Bush seeks good ties with Congress



George Bush

Bush's election victory was more modest. His influence was minimal in the Congressional races and few claim for him the charisma that enabled Reagan to recover from stunning political blows with his popularity virtually intact.

If he expects to come in and be really a Ronald Reagan — with all of his great qualities Ronald Reagan was very confrontational, very partisan — that's not going to work with George Bush," said Senator Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, a can-

didate for Senate Democratic leader.

The chairman of the Democratic congressional campaign committee, Beryl Anthony of Arkansas, hoped Bush would be more co-operative than confrontational but said only time would tell how Congress and the new president would work together.

"But you'll see Democrats offer a good faith effort to work with the new administration," Anthony said.

Deficit Bush's vague "flexible freeze" as the weapon to attack the deficit could set the stage for battles over sending priorities.

Some Democrats will want to target defence for new cuts. But Bush has said he intends to pursue Reagan's high-priced weapons programmes, including the plan to base MX strategic missiles on rail cars.

During the campaign, Bush also vowed to deploy the Star Wars missile defence system as soon as it is ready. The programme, formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative, is close to Reagan's heart and a

conservative cause. Congress has regularly cut back the programme and it remained to be seen how hard Bush would push it when in office.

Coelho said he believed Bush would "get off this Reagan kick" of seeking to race toward deployment and would modify his position on the 10-warhead MX.

Bush is expected to leave much of Reagan's foreign policy in place. Reagan's policies toward the Soviet Union and on arms control are generally supported in Congress. Many Democrats would like to see faster progress.

Struggles Bush has signalled a likely renewal of Reagan's struggles with Congress on Nicaragua policy, asserting he will place a high priority on aiding the Contra rebels and press to "keep the pressure" on the Sandinista government.

Congress has barred military aid to the Contras since last February.

As he begins his administration, the new president is likely to be free of one distraction suffered

by Reagan in his first months. Bush is expected to bring known and respected officials into his administration.

His announced plan to nominate former Treasury Secretary James Baker as secretary of state has been warmly received and neither Baker nor former Senator John Tower, the leading favourite for defence secretary, would have any problem in being confirmed by the Senate.

In contrast, some of Reagan's nominees were highly controversial and his first secretary of state, Alexander Haig, went through a week's grilling by the Foreign Relations Committee before he was cleared for the post.

Nehru left indelible imprint

"It is now almost a quarter of a century since Jawaharlal Nehru passed into history. Yet, even today, one is deeply conscious of our country's immense debt of gratitude to him."

"We are equally conscious of the fact that Nehru, the nationalist, the internationalist, the rationalist, the scientific and visionary statesman of his time, has left his indelible imprint upon the edifice of independent India."

"Nehru meant everything to the millions of Indians of a whole generation — which includes me — who grew up in his era which covered 17 years as prime minister. His zeal, almost fanatical, commitment to democracy, its norms and principles, to the dignity of the individual, to the independence and freedom for colonial and oppressed peoples and his exposition of the principles of non-alignment were not only a matter of inspiration, but immense pride to those who lived in his era."

Inspiration "Therefore, it is not only natural, but also highly desirable, that when we formally launch the observance of his centenary year — on Nov 14, his 99th birth anniversary — the generation that has come of age in the years after his passing should continue to speak inspiration from and ponder over the qualities and greatness and the sense of idealism, purpose and history which permeated his actions and policies. These will, no doubt, continue to guide and inspire us at the helm of affairs for all times to come."

"We should now and over the next 12 months solemnly rededicate ourselves to the principles and ideals of our great and outstanding leader who laid the foundations of independent India."

Support Jawaharlal Nehru's espousal and strong support of Arab causes was an integral and important part of the anti-colonial and anti-imperialist struggle waged by him throughout his life — not only after he became prime minister of India, but long before.

"The close bonds of friendship between India and the Arab world are glowing testimony to the permanent impact of his thinking in this regard also. His policies have more than provided the solid foundations upon which his successors have been able to further consolidate the goodwill and friendship between India and the Arab countries and Indian and Arab peoples."

Ambassador of India N.N. Jha's message on the occasion of Jawaharlal Nehru centenary year.

Scars of attempted coup remain in Maldives

By Raju Gopalakrishnan

MALE, Maldives, (AP): In a country where only two murders had been reported this century, the scars of last week's coup attempt are jarringly visible.

The Maldives, a group of about 2,000 coral islands in the Indian Ocean, was better known for its picture-postcard beaches and resorts than foreign mercenaries and soldiers battling it out on the streets.

But that image changed Nov 3 when hired gunmen from Sri Lanka tried to overthrow President Maumun Abdul Gayoom.

"Maldives has been catapulted into the 20th century," said A.K. Banerjee, India's top diplomat on the islands.

The attempt to oust Gayoom was thwarted by the arrival of Indian paratroopers, but at least a dozen people were killed in Male, the capital, and at least six more died on a getaway ship hijacked by the mercenaries.

The Indian paratroopers have started pulling out of the country, but some remain as a token force, controlling the jetty on Male and the international airport on nearby Hulule island.

A week after the fighting, soldiers of the Maldivian National Security Service, the country's 1,200-member militia, continue to patrol the narrow, unpaved streets of Male island.

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The people of Male, most of them government employees or fishermen, gathered in clusters to stare at the Indian paratroopers in red berets, camouflage uniforms and black Army boots.

"They are not hostile, but you can sense their disapproval," an Indian major said of the Mal-

divians. "I think they don't like violence."

Ismail Mohammad, a law student, said he could find records of only two murders in the islands this century.

"One was by a West German tourist who killed his girlfriend on a resort," he said. "I don't remember the other but know that a fisherman was killed."

Convicted The German was convicted a few years ago and banished to a remote island, where he married a Maldivian woman.

Banishment has been customary punishment for crimes, but captured mercenaries could face the death sentence if convicted on charges stemming from the coup attempt, Gayoom told a news conference this week.

Gayoom was unconcerned about the long-term effects of the coup. Asked if the trouble could affect tourism, the islands' largest industry after fishing, he said: "It could get better after the exposure we have received in the international press."

About 120,000 tourists visit the beaches and remote islands of the Maldives each year. Most are from Western Europe and Japan.

The government lists more than 50 resort hotels, almost none on the main island of Male. Most resorts occupy an entire island.

Tourism brings in about 90 million rufiya (\$10.5 million) a



Suspects involved in the recent coup attempt in Maldives are taken to the National Security Services headquarters. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sources in the Maldivian government said the security of the islands would now be a priority issue for the administration.

New hope for death row prisoners in Turkey

By Ayse Sarioglu

ANKARA, (Reuters): Each night 220 inmates of Turkish jails, including at least one woman, fear the warder's tread will mean the time has come for their final walk to the gallows for execution.

But now it appears their lives may be spared by parliament as Turkey tries to improve its democratic image and win full membership of the European Economic Community. Turkey is the only Council of Europe member to retain the death penalty.

Hanged "I am in favour of lifting the death penalty. It does not seem to work," President Kenan Evren told Turkish reporters in October.

Capital punishment has been part of the penal code since 1926, three years after the birth of the Turkish Republic from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire.

The supreme penalty can be exacted for crimes against the state such as trying to overthrow the constitutional order by force, and murder.

The last person to be hanged in

Turkey was Hidir Aslan, a leftist who killed three policemen in 1980. He was executed in October 1984, officials said.

"The day when the death penalty will be abolished in Turkey will come but social and cultural levels in the country are not yet high enough to justify this," Alpaslan Pehlivanli, chairman of Parliament's Judicial Committee, told Reuters.

"Also, crimes against the state must end before the death penalty can be scrapped," he said.

Pehlivanli is behind a bill which would automatically commute to life imprisonment death sentences not approved by parliament within a year of being sent to the house.

Each death sentence in Turkey needs parliamentary approval before the condemned man or woman can be hanged. The president can grant clemency but this is rare, usually only when the condemned person is very old or very ill.

Pehlivanli is confident that the bill will pass as Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's Motherland Party has 291 of the 450 seats in parliament.

The 220 death row inmates, including four Palestinians who stormed the Egyptian embassy in Ankara and killed two Turkish guards in 1979, have had their sentences confirmed by higher courts and are awaiting parliamentary action.

"You cannot hang so many people en masse. It would be a very wrong political move, to say the least," Pehlivanli said.

"Parliament's duty is ... to decide if there is any public benefit in executing sentence. If there was public benefit, they should have been executed long ago."

Retain "If we clear the present backlog of death sentences we shall be in a position to evaluate a new sentence from the viewpoint of public benefit," Pehlivanli added.

A recent poll of 35 leaders of Turkey's Bar Association showed 27 opposed capital punishment.

Many politicians feel the public would wish to retain execution of common criminals sentenced for particularly violent murders and believe han-

ging has a deterrent value.

"If a referendum was held on the subject, I believe the majority of Turks would vote for the continuation of capital punishment," one leading Motherland official said.

Citing the case of a man sentenced to hang for raping and murdering a 10-year-old village girl whose goat strayed into the killer's garden, he asked: "Are we to forgive him?"

Convicts Pehlivanli said he received many letters from the London-based human rights watchdog Amnesty International protesting at capital punishment in Turkey.

"But to this day I have not received one single petition to spare the life of a common criminal. All petitions were in the name of political criminals and, without exception, leftists."

"I believe the West is more interested in people's politics than their lives," he added.

"My opinion is that political convicts are more to blame than ordinary criminals because their target is the state. The state should also have a means of self-defence," he said.

ملک مالڈیو

2000 miles southeast of Moscow is a Muslim city of 500,000

Of Lenin and Timur the Lame

By Priscilla Turner

SAMARKAND, USSR: Two ragged stone pillars stand open like jaws in the dry riverbed near the road. In the old days, camel caravans passed between them on their way to Samarkand. These natural rock columns are called the Gates of Timur, because the 14th-century ruler, Timur the Lame, once extracted tariffs here. Our Intourist bus bumps past them, on a road roughly paralleling the ancient Silk Route.

Soon we're rolling across the open steppe, where cotton and mulberry bushes seem to grow right to the edge of distant, treeless mountains. Women in bright silk harem pants stand apart from men at bus stops.

Here we are — some 2,000 miles southeast of Moscow, in Soviet Central Asia. A Muslim city of 500,000 Samarkand lies about 200 miles from the Afghan border in the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan. Since extended families live nine or 10 to a room in low, shedlike buildings, the city is much smaller than its population would seem to require.

Indeed, Samarkand does not appear large enough to hold all the medieval Islamic monuments and ruins we have come to see. Along the narrow main street, outside images of Lenin look down at us benignly, the familiar face modified to reflect Central Asian features. Below, street hawkers sell deep-fried meat pies.

Natasha, our urbane, Russian Intourist guide, takes us first to the ruins of the Ulughbek Observatory. Ulughbek was the favourite grandson of Timur the Lame, who is known as Tamerlane in the West. Timur may have decreed Samarkand his grand capital, but it was Ulughbek who gave up the life of wars and conquest to make it a centre of learning. One story has it that the poet Omar Khayyam studied mathematics here.

Achieved
At his observatory Ulughbek achieved a remarkable feat, estimating the length of a year to within 62 seconds of modern-day calculations. Built in 1428, the observatory itself was a wonder, 207 feet long. We look down on the long tunnel where the pendulum once swung in the dusty coolness;

'Along the narrow main street, outside images of Lenin look down at us benignly, the familiar face modified to reflect central Asian features...'

Natasha tells us that Ulughbek was beheaded by his son, who wanted to get on with the business of empire-building.

Ulughbek was eventually buried next to his grandfather at Guri-Emir, a stately mausoleum known for its large and intricately tiled blue fluted dome, as striking a beacon against the white light of the Central Asian sun as a lighthouse is at sea.

As we enter Guri-Emir's mosaic-covered portal, young

Uzbek girls timidly approach, asking us in faulty Russian for gum and souvenirs. Inside, a fledgling contingent of the Red Army, in heavy wool olive-drab uniforms and black boots, listens to a Russian-speaking guide.

Their eyes wander our way over Timur's dark green nephrite tomb. We hear what they hear: that the day after archaeologists opened Timur's graves in June 1941, the Germans invaded Russia, perhaps fulfilling the superstition that led ancient Egyptians to put curses against graverobbers on their hallowed tombs.

Fortunately, modern warfare has never made it as far as Central Asia, and so has never scorched Samarkand's largest and best-known mosques and mausoleums, which have survived countless wars, earth-

quakes, and neglect. The Soviet government, much to its credit, made it a priority after World War II to restore both Registan Square, at the town centre, and the Shakh-Zinda necropolis, where Muslim pilgrims still come because it is fabled to hold the grave of Kusam Ibn-Abbas, Muhammad's cousin.

Shakh-Zinda is a labyrinth of 20 mausoleums and mosques behind an elaborate towering portal; we stretch to mount the steep, baked brick steps and

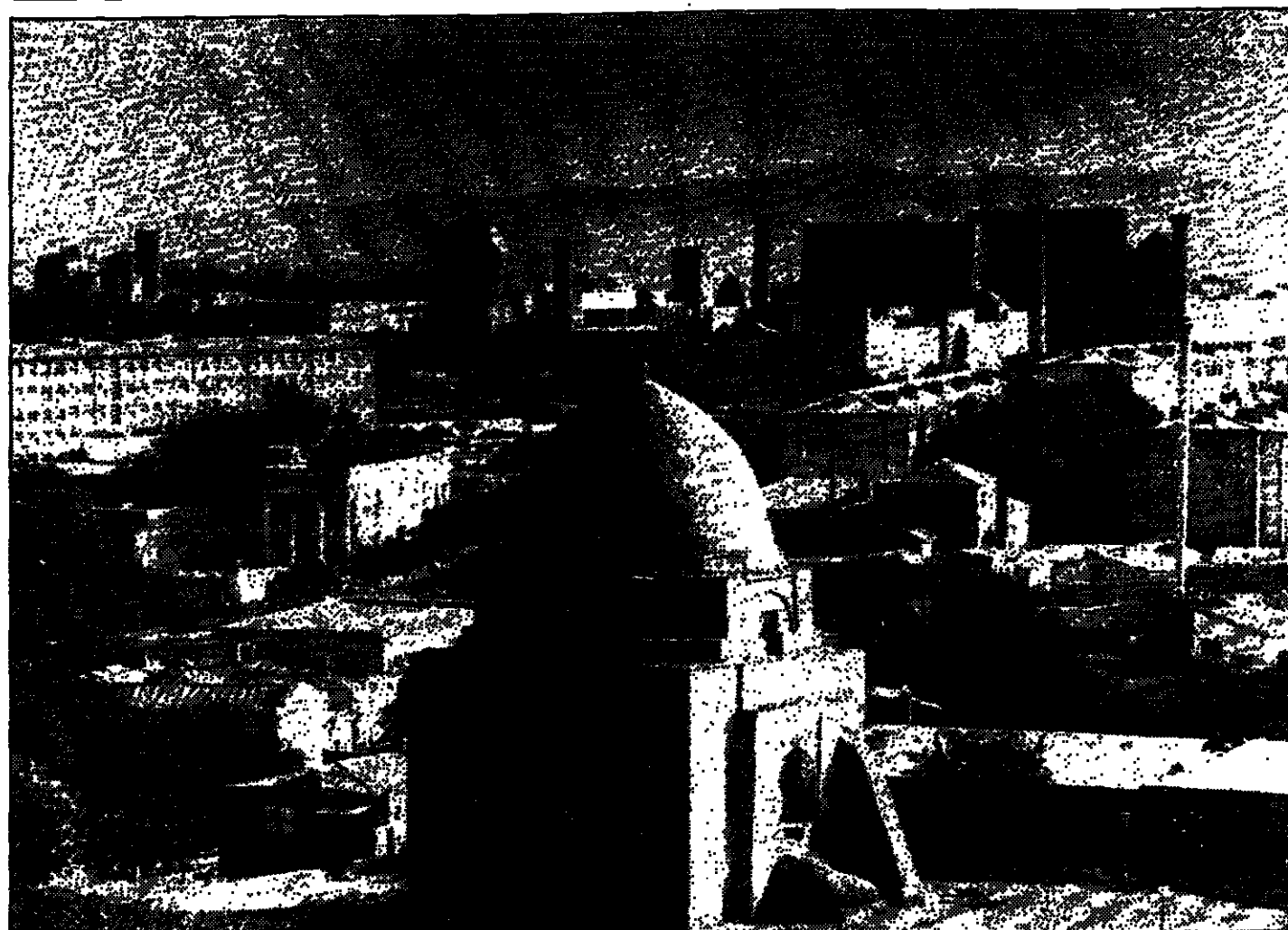
pass through a small entrance. Bright webs of blue, green, and white cover the mausoleums in patterns of infinite diamonds and stars, their extended lines crossing and recrossing almost as if woven. Natasha tells us that archaeologists haven't found the formula for the unfading cobalt and aqua tiles, which gleam like porcelain in the sun.

Registan Square opens wide as a fairground, bordered on three sides by madrasahs — Muslim religious schools — of a grand scale. Minarets, domes, and towering lancet arches dating from the 15th to the 17th centuries face off, all decorated in Escher-like mazes of blue tile and majolica. The Sherdor (Lion) Madrasah breaks with Islamic tradition: its outer portal bears mirror images of a lion chasing a deer; a rising sun rides in the arc of the lion's back, a stylized Asian face peering out from its centre.

Advices

In a shady corner many feet below, a girl with a glossy black braid that brushes the hem of her tunic is selling lapis lazuli earrings behind a makeshift stand. They cost 35 rubles, almost \$60 at the official exchange rate; we settle for terra-cotta dragons for 2 rubles and 35 kopecks.

Natasha wisely advises us to save our money for the open-air market, which spreads itself out behind the ruins of the Bibi Khaym mosque. Once it was a towering affair, among the lar-



Islamic domes and Soviet-built housing mix in Samarkand, USSR.

gest mosques in the Muslim world. The 14th-century architects' imagination exceeded their engineering skill; the mosque fell in almost as soon as it was finished.

Behind wooden counters in the market, Uzbek men size us

up over mountains of golden raisins or logs of dense, sticky melon that has been dried and braided, or open cloth bags of spices that would bring a Muscovite to his knees.

I approach a young Uzbek who pretends not to under-

stand my Russian. He takes long sips of tea from a blue-and-white china cup before he finally warms up to me, offering me a sample of his white, creamy honey. I carried his little jar nearly 8,000 miles home. I still haven't finished my

Uzbek delicacy. Practical information.

The usual jumping-off point for Samarkand is Tashkent, Uzbekistan's capital, about four hours away by bus. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

Heaven won't be crowded like Nairobi

By Stephen Nisbet

NAIROBI (Reuters) — Heaven won't be crowded like Nairobi, intones the Reverend Calvin Rock.

The black Seventh Day Adventist preacher from New York draws loud cheers from his capacity Saturday night audience as he describes paradise to the people of the world's fastest growing capitals.

"The streets will be paved with gold," Amen.

"And a man who drops a bag containing a million dollars will not need to fear it will be stolen."

Amen.

God and mammon wage a colourful struggle for more than one million souls in Nairobi, a city with something even Wall Street lacks — askyscraper called Money Towers (Fehda in Swahili).

A bracing climate at nearly 1,700 metres (5,600 feet) above sea level may explain the energetic approach of the urban Kenyan in search of the shilling or spiritual solace.

Dozens of young men risk limb and lung at rush-hour traffic lights to sell newspapers for a few cents profit. Others in the growing "informal economy" shine shoes or roast maize on the pavements.

Struggle

When the struggle for survival gets too tough, religious comfort is at hand. Walls and lamp-posts are plastered with gospel meeting advertisements. Street preachers draw lunch-time crowds, and church buildings can hardly keep pace with demand.

Religious messages appear in unlikely places. "Jesus saves," proclaims a garishly painted message on a Matatu — the recklessly-driven, overloaded private minibus at the bottom end of the Nairobi commuter market.

"It's madness," said an official of the National Council of Churches of Kenya when asked about some of the more spectacular displays of religious fervour.

At Mathare Valley, dozens of cross-waving inhabitants of Nairobi's worst slum sing with gusto as they dance in procession through its acres of squalid shacks. A canvas awning as big as a circus tent can ill shelter worshippers at one Sunday morning rally.

Three miles (five km) away outside the Intercontinental Hotel, safari tourists grab their cameras as 200 Legion of Mary devotees jog past barefoot, carrying shoes, rosaries and animal-hair fly whisks.

Chinese cash in on Bertolucci film

By Rachel Horne

HONG KONG, (UPI) — Any one who entertains fantasies of living the life of an Oriental potentate now can make the dream come true by spending a night in one of the haunts of China's last emperor — his prison cell.

The unusual opportunity is part of a bid by China to cash in on the stunning success of Bernardo Bertolucci's Oscar-winning film *The Last Emperor*. It's offering tours that retrace the life of Pu Yi, the country's last imperial ruler.

"I believe the film *The Last Emperor* was a great promotion for tourism in China," said Lu Bing, deputy director of the Beijing tourist administration. "Now we will make it become real."

The *Tour of The Last Emperor* starts in Beijing, Pu Yi's birthplace, and proceeds through the northern Chinese cities of Tianjin, Fushun and Changchun, where he lived at various times of his turbulent life. He returned to the capital in 1960 to spend his remaining years as a gardener.

The visits include Pu Yi's 1920s Tianjin residence, his 1930s palace in Changchun and the Fushun war criminals prison — now housing ordinary convicts — where he was interned through the 1950s to undergo "re-education."

Tourists who wish to experience the ultimate imperial sensation can pay extra to spend the night in the cell where Pu Yi slept for nearly 10 years.

With imperial-like secrecy, Chinese travel officials so far refuse to disclose how much the foreign dreamer will have to pay for the circuit, saying only it will cost more than other tours.

In Beijing, the first stop is within the massive red walls of the 15th century forbidden city, the seat of imperial power until a popular revolution in 1911 dethroned Pu Yi and ushered in a republic.

Despite the revolution, Pu Yi continued his sumptuous life-style inside the courtyards that formed his palace home, attended by thousands of eunuchs, until 1924 when he was driven out at age 13 by an ambitious warlord.

For latter-day, would-be courtiers, the palace is opening the emperor's bedroom for the first time and displaying more

than 200 of his personal possessions — photographs, samples of his calligraphy, his bicycle, movie-projector and cricket cages.

Also on show is Pu Yi's queue, or pigtail, worn symbolically by upper crust Chinese before 1949. The teenage emperor slashed it off to emulate the appearance of his British tutor.

The high consorts wept several times at the loss of my plait and my tutors went round with long faces for days," Pu Yi recalled in his memoirs.

Next is a trip to the former mansion and gardens of one of Pu Yi's uncles, a Qing dynasty prince. For 100 yuan (\$27), visitors can spend an evening sitting in a poolside pagoda listening to traditional court music while sipping tea and nibbling on imperial-style cakes.

The garden, called Gong Wang Fu, which once bustled with princes, concubines and attendants, was recently restored. It suffered a series of incarnations after the 1949 communist takeover — first as home to Soviet engineers, then as a police station and later as an air-conditioner factory.

No one is more aware of the changes than Yu Huan, Pu Yi's nephew, who was born and spent his childhood in the compound. Now on hand to conduct tours of the tranquil garden, Yu recently was allowed access to a book room in his ancestral home.

"I'm only a consultant," he said wistfully. "I can't live here any more, you understand."

The traveller then pursues Pu Yi in exile to the nearby coastal city of Tianjin where he lived out the 1920s as a self-professed bon vivant — dressed in Western suits, frequenting British clubs and squandering his fortune on diamonds.

In 1934, at the prompting of Japan, he re-ascended the throne as emperor of the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo in northeast China. After Japan's defeat, he was captured by the Soviet Army and returned to China in 1950 to be jailed as a war criminal by Mao Tse-tung's communist government.

An exhibit within the Fushun Prison walls, titled "From emperor to citizen" from the namesake title of his memoirs, shows Pu Yi's prison uniform and daily utensils, the dining room, the greenhouse where he cultivated his green thumb and his cell.

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مركز الأعمال

Operation: planet earth

The International Council of Scientific Unions recently met in Stockholm to plan a huge collaborative research effort to understand the planet earth better.

By Nigel Calder

WHEN scientists from 40 countries met in Stockholm recently to plan a huge collaborative research effort to understand the planet better, Gokul Menon of India toyed with the English words, the world and the Earth.

Menon is president of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) which is master-minding the Global Change Programme.

He remarked that the world — the sum of human activity — is now enveloping the whole Earth system, meaning the natural planet that human beings inhabit.

In principle the Global Change Programme will co-ordinate research worth several billion dollars, over the next 10-20 years.

While some of this will be new money, much of it will represent co-ordination of what governmental agencies would have spent anyway, on problems of the environment.

This includes new generation of remote-sensing satellites which the world's space agencies are already preparing.

NASA in particular has been pushing for some years the concept of a "mission to the planet Earth".

Change

Satellites can already observe global change in real time. Worldwide maps of ocean currents that formerly took several human lifetimes of seagoing to produce can be generated from satellite data, season by season.

Features never comprehensively mapped before but now plain from the satellites include the colour of the sea and the land, with the presence of green chlorophyll betokening biological productivity.

Meteorologists worked a revolution in their science by combining observations from satellites with computer models of the atmosphere. In principle

this method might be extended into the ecology of living systems, including human ecology, to turn these into exact, predictive sciences.

In formal terms the Stockholm meeting was the first session of the scientific advisory council for the International Geosphere.

Since ICSU decided two years ago to tackle global change in a major multi-disciplinary effort, international panels of scientists have been busy shaping a programme.

The "greenhouse" gases attract a lot of attention, because the loudest alarm bells that provoked the programme came from computer models of the climate, predicting that excess carbon dioxide and other gases may raise the Earth's mean temperature by several degrees Celsius.

The living sea absorbs much of the carbon dioxide liberated by human activity, but how it does so is still something of a mystery. Marine organisms also put dimethyl sulphide into the atmosphere, which can affect the weather by creating seeds for cloud formation.

Study

ICSU's oceanographers have already conceived a study of these matters, but a global change panel wants to add new projects on coastal waters.

Here pollution affects ecosystems severely, and nitrates coming down the rivers can change into nitrous oxide, another greenhouse gas. On land, methane and nitrogen oxides enter the atmosphere from natural ecosystems and from farms.

Evaporation, rainfall and rivers (the water cycle) have been studied since time immemorial. The new programme reinforces a push from the remote-sensing experts, who want to relate what they see in satellite images and data to what is happening at ground level.

Only with the help of special

investigations can they expect to decode the satellite data well enough to feed reliable results into computer models.

How do landscapes and soils respond to changes in weather patterns? If plants are affected, what does that do to the balance between different species of plants? And if the vegetation pattern changes, what happens to the animals, and to pests and diseases? Can animals be used as early-warning indicators of climatic change, when they shift their ranges in response to subtle variations in weather patterns? The scientists who are developing a research programme on these lines plan to exploit the record of past climates and ecosystems preserved in tree-rings, and in fossil leaves and pollen.

Reagan and Gorbachev at their last summit meeting resolved to co-operate in "the increasingly important area of global climate and environmental change". The Swedish government's declared intention to tax emissions of carbon dioxide gas epitomises the growing concern among the world's politicians about the predictions of global warming, and it is not a coincidence that the Swedes have also hosted the secretariat of the Global Change Programme.

Experiments

And even if question marks remain about the warming, the rest of the catalogue of environmental issues deforestation, acid rain, soil erosion, the growth of deserts, the ozone hole will ensure political support for the programme.

But will human brainpower measure up to a task that calls for immense attention to detail combined with a great intellectual leap? What the experts in remote-sensing satellites call "ground truth" illustrates one of the difficulties. Everyone has seen the gaudily coloured images and synoptic maps compiled from satellite data —



After a storm: trees alter the colour of the earth's system

but what exactly does an orange spot in the middle of Turkey or Nigeria really mean? You can find out reliably only by going there, at the right season.

Elaborate experiments in ground truth have taken place in Kansas, France and the Soviet Union, and others are planned. Help from developing countries will be essential for interpreting satellite data, because they own most of the Earth's land surface. Perhaps the most practical thing that happened in Stockholm was that scientists from developing countries snapped up a cur-price offer of synoptic maps of global chlorophyll distribution.

Problems that go much deeper than the assimilation of data are typified by an ordinary tree. Its growth depends on the weather, but it is not a passive victim. The tree alters the colour of the Earth's surface, which modifies the input of heat from the sun. It also puts a brake on the wind, pumps water from the soil into the air, and sucks out carbon dioxide. The tree binds the soils moderates rivers, and makes a home for other species. It is liable to die in a freak drought or storm.

To make progress, scientists will have to write down precise formulas and numbers, about trees and other living things, that will capture their two-way

interactions with the ecosystem. They will then have to fashion from these the coarser "parameterised" versions that can fit like cogwheels into the computerised climatic-cum-ecological models. These models will have to improve. At present the atmospheric models divide the world into grid squares about 200 kilometres wide, so that they make crude averages out of territory as different as the Lincolnshire Fen and the Yorkshire Moors.

Other kinds of models hydrological, agricultural, economic and so on must be mated at some stage with climatic models. Already, at a little distance from the geos-

phere-biosphere projects, a programme on Human Dimensions of Global Change is being put together by the International Social Science Council and the United Nations University.

This is not the first time that human beings have set out, in a rather grandiose way, to comprehend the physical, biological and human features of the planet. It began with ancient mapmakers and the Greeks called it geography. Even now, the agenda for the Global Change Programme reads remarkably like an A-level geography syllabus. This was always the subject that put the world and the Earth together, and was interested in

"ground truth" before the term was invented.

For the moment, the geographers have to defer to the physicists, like many other disciplines before them. Geography had already lost its way, as the great integrating science, when it divided the world into regions and split itself into sub-disciplines.

But the Global Change Programme, with its Human Dimensions sub-programme, is tantamount to a reinvention of geography.

It has a wonderful new technical and intellectual realm to inhabit, so whether the people doing it call themselves geographers or modellers, we are entitled to expect results.

By Stewart Boyle

WATCH out. "quack" doctors of the Wild West are back in town. A queue of energy supply salesmen is lining up to offer the world "miracle" cures for global warming. Hydrogen, fusion, windparks, methanol and, predominantly, nuclear power are currently on offer.

Supporters of the nuclear cure include the British Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher. Their arguments are not only illusive, however: they are dangerous, because they distract us from the real solutions.

After three decades as the energy source most favoured by governments, nuclear power provides only three per cent of global energy.

Nuclear electricity at best can displace only 12-14 per cent of the global warming effect — that proportion derived as carbon dioxide from oil and coal power stations.

It cannot realistically displace emissions from transport sources, nor can it do anything about the non-CO₂ greenhouse gases, which currently represent half of the problem.

For nuclear to replace half the world's current fossil energy needs, nations would have to build 16 new large reactors per week between 1995 and 2020. This is almost 50 times the rate achieved during the decade of peak nuclear construction preceding 1985.

The associated cost controversy, risk of failure and

Global warming: is nuclear energy a miracle solution?

economic disruption are beyond imagining, particularly in the developing world where nuclear power has generally been an expensive failure.

To accomplish the same goal (to halve current CO₂ emissions) with improved energy efficiency would require 4.6 per cent annual increases in the world's gross national product/energy ratio. This is about 60 per cent faster than the rate the United States was achieving

'Nuclear power also brings its own environmental problems ... as one observer asks: why replace a migraine with a gastric ulcer?'

before 1986, 35 per cent faster than the present rate in Japan and double the United Kingdom rate.

With consistent and aggressive government policies, including taxation and efficiency standards on vehicles, appliances and buildings, this is within reach.

Energy conservation is already saving 1,400 million tonnes of coal a year in International Energy Agency countries and is about seven times more cost-effective than nuclear power in displacing CO₂ emissions.

Although Friends of the Earth favour renewable energy sources which do not yield CO₂, no future energy supply option can have more than a marginal impact on global warming

without much more energy conservation.

Nuclear power also brings its own environmental problems. A recent conference stated that "if these problems (reactor safety, radio-active wastes and nuclear weapons proliferation) can be solved ... nuclear power could (my emphasis) have a

THE 'GREENHOUSE' DEBATE



role in lowering CO₂ emissions."

This is a big "if." As one conference observer asked: "Why replace a migraine with a gastric ulcer?"

Global warming has been described as "an experiment whose ultimate consequences could be second only to global nuclear war."

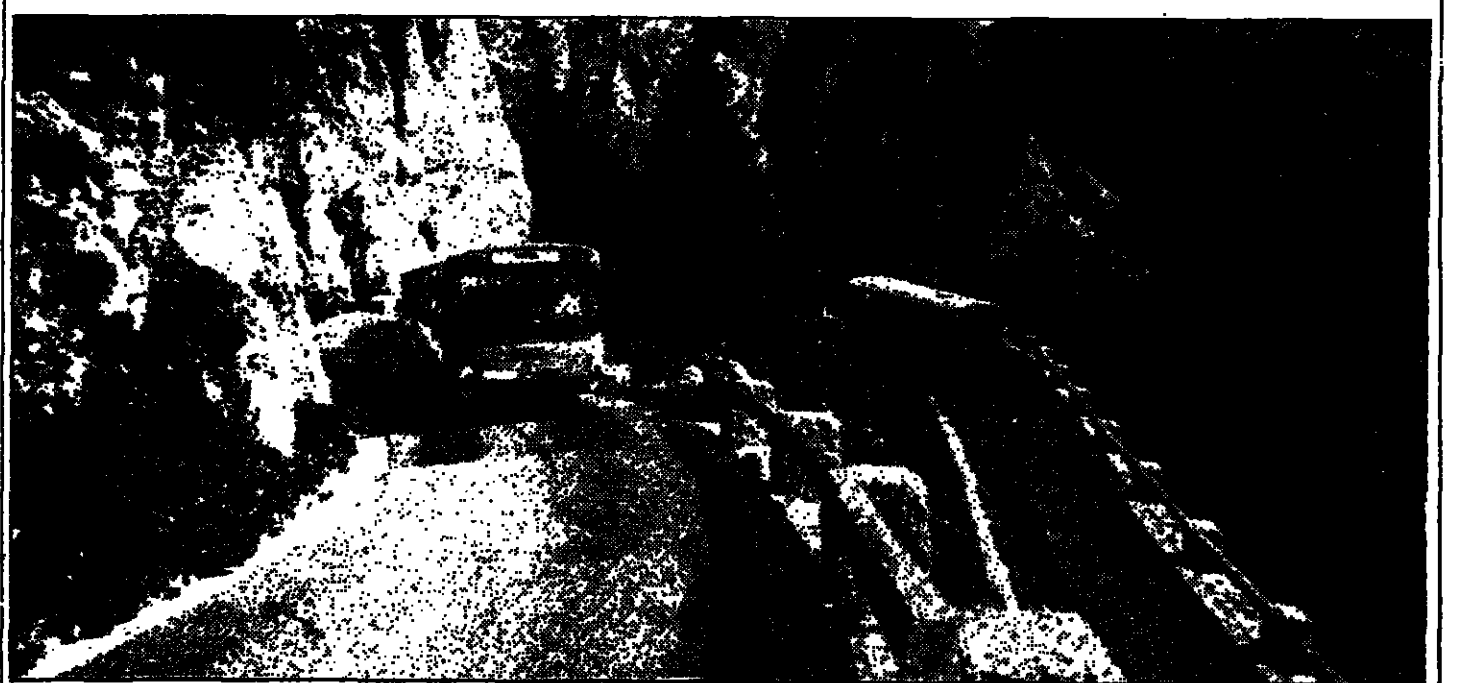
If we are to survive this experiment, major national and international policy initiatives are required.

These include the complete phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons, massive energy conservation programmes, transport policies redirected away from domination by cars, and a reversal of current deforestation rates.

Those who cynically hijack our fears of global warming as a means of recharging the fading star of nuclear power will only succeed in diverting attention from these real solutions.

Stop yodelling plea from Bavarian environment minister

Hills will die with sound of music



The Bavarian Alps: nature and tranquillity disturbed by yodellers

By Patricia Clough

BONN: So there you are, high up in the Alps with the mountains all around and the echo of a lifetime to try out. What could be more tempting than to let out a throaty hol-la-di-di-a-ho?

But please kindly refrain.

Bavaria's Environment Minister, Alfred Dick, is asking people not to yodel in the Bavarian Alps any more. Yodelling, he claims, is harmful to the environment.

It may seem like the sound of music to humans, but to the rapidly dwindling mountain fauna it is just noise, an

environmental spokesman says. And such noise, he says, scares the timid mountain goats and is driving golden eagles, blackcock, and other rare birds toward extinction.

Actually it is not so much yodelling itself that Dick objects to, but people trying to yodel.

He would not particularly mind any of Bavaria's approximately 1,000 trained yodellers holl-ing away from a mountain-top.

These days, such accomplished yodellers tend to let rip mostly at folklore evenings for tourists in local inns or village fetes.

Cowherd who once would

voice melodious evening greetings to their lady-loves across the valley now use the phone.

As a result, the mountains echo with the sound of city folk trying it out, usually with painful results.

"Not everyone can do it," the spokesman says. "It is like picking up a trumpet and trying to play. It has to be learned."

It seems Dick, who issued his advice in a list of 13 warnings to mountain hikers (including: don't drop litter or stray from the marked paths), was thinking of humans as much as the rare fauna.

"People come to the mountains to enjoy nature and tran-

quillity. They should not be disturbed," his spokesman explained.

Bavaria's nature conservationists, however, are not overly impressed by Dick's sensitivity.

Hubert Weinzierl, chairman of local branch of the Nature Protection League, says he would prefer his hills were alive with the sounds of yodellers any day, than to have cross-country motorcyclists or hang-gliders in the Bavarian Alps.

"A good yodel would be the least of our environmental problems," Weinzierl fumed. The Christian Science Monitor.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

STRESS COULD CONTRIBUTE TO FLARE-UPS OF ILLNESS

QUESTION: I suffer with ileitis, and I'm becoming a nervous wreck. I don't know where to turn for answers. Is anxiety causing my disease? Do you think tranquilizers or even a psychiatrist could help? Please answer these questions for me.

ANSWER: The exact cause of ileitis (inflammation of part of the small intestine) is still not clear, although the possibility of a viral infection, or changes in the body's immune system are being considered.

There is no evidence that emotional factors cause the disease, although they most certainly may result from the difficulties and worries that this ailment provokes. In addition, it's probable that stressful situations in your life may cause a flare-up of your condition, but this must be distinguished from its underlying cause.

Tranquilizers can be helpful at such moments since they help you contend with the stress and minimize the reactions, both mental and physical. But the medicines are

not required for all patients and should be taken only with your physician's knowledge and counsel.

Emotional support is very important to anyone ill with a severe disease, particularly one as distressful as ileitis, but such help does not necessarily require professional psychotherapy or psychiatric help.

Your own family doctor, who has experience in the care and treatment of your illness, can offer you a great deal of support and help during trying times. However, if your emotional upset is severe, a psychiatrist can be most helpful, particularly if he or she has experience in dealing with patients suffering from ileitis.

AL ROSS MY DESK: With the first hint of cold weather, now is the time to conduct a health inventory of yourself and your family. The nation's family doctors want you to take a closer look at your health, and a month-long campaign this fall is stressing the importance of forming a "partnership

for health" with a family physician.

October has been designated "Family Health Month" by the 60,000-member American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the national association of family doctors.

Family doctors are encouraging people to take a close look at their families' eating habits, physical fitness, mental health, tobacco and alcohol use and possible hazards in the home.

Because family doctors are trained to help patients and their families, they can provide total health care on a continuing basis and offer counsel and advice, on proper nutrition, good exercise habits and dealing with stress, as well as 85 per cent to 90 per cent of all biomedical health problems. They also serve as health advocates for the patient, referring to appropriate specialists the 10 per cent of cases that require additional knowledge and skills.

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ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Move will open new outlet for investors

Kuwait Stock Exchange to list foreign firms

KUWAIT, Nov 13. (Reuters): The Kuwait Stock Exchange, the busiest in the Arab world, will soon list foreign firms as part of plans to revitalise trading and capitalise on an expected economic recovery in the Gulf following the Iran-Iraq ceasefire.

General manager Hisham Al-Oteibi told Reuters today two international companies had applied for a listing and had met all requirements.

He declined to identify them, but financial sources said both were Kuwaiti-owned financial institutions registered abroad and one was the London-based United Bank of Kuwait Ltd (UBK).

"The only problem is the clearing system. Since no foreign

banks are represented in Kuwait we are discussing a system for clearing their shares," Oteibi said.

Exchange

UBK is jointly owned by 13 Kuwaiti finance institutions including the state's six commercial banks. Registration on the exchange is now limited to firms registered in Kuwait and other Gulf states.

Investor confidence has slowly returned since the 1982 Souk Al-Manakh crash, when wild speculation at the peak of the oil boom triggered a collapse which plunged Kuwait into recession.

But recent returns have been modest. The Al-Shalal index for Kuwaiti shares ended last week at 42.08, less than one per cent

higher than in January.

Prices and trading volume shot up in July when Iran said it would accept a ceasefire in its eight-year war with Iraq, but hopes of a regional boom fuelled by post-war reconstruction have since dimmed.

"I think this (listing of foreign firms) will open a new outlet for investors. Instead of going outside they can invest internationally on their own exchange," Oteibi said.

The exchange, which lists 52 Kuwaiti and Gulf firms, will now accept any company which meets existing financial conditions and is quoted on a major world exchange, he said.

Oteibi described the current market slump as a normal lull

before the announcement of year-end financial results and said long-term prospects were bright.

Recovery

"The economy is really starting to pick up in all sectors. But it takes time. At least there is a ceasefire. The ceasefire gives hope to people for an economic recovery," he said.

In other steps to boost trading, Oteibi said the exchange would begin listing shares in local mutual funds during the first quarter of 1989.

Tenders would be issued soon for a system to computerise trading, he said. This would spur activity on the exchange, which now operates a traditional floor in a \$60-million marble tower

near the Gulf sea front, by automatically matching buy and sell orders.

The exchange also planned to open up trading to all citizens of the Gulf Co-operation Council, which groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

The cabinet was expected to pass regulations governing such trade by the end of the year, Oteibi said.

Oteibi said the government was still studying plans to sell shares which government agencies bought in Kuwaiti companies in rescue operations after the 1982 crash. "We're studying if the market can absorb new share offerings," he said.

Government agencies led by

the Kuwait Investment Authority now hold a huge chunk of shares.

Oteibi said the government was also drawing up proposed regulations to establish market makers — investment groups that would stimulate and stabilise trading.

Conditions

He said the exchange planned to shut its so-called "parallel market," a legacy of the Souk Al-Manakh, by Jan 1. This market has been gradually phased out as restructuring enabled listed firms to comply with financial conditions on the official exchange.

It had originally been due to close last June, but its seven remaining firms were given more time to finish restructuring.

KFTCIC considers political risks before investing

KUWAIT, Nov 13. (KUNA): Board chairman and managing director of the Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company, Abdalla Al-Qabandi said today that the company always takes into account political risks when allocating its investments, in addition to the fluctuations in the currency of the host country against the major currencies.

Speaking to KUNA, Al-Qabandi said that the company has investments in GCC states, the US, Western Europe and Japan, according to the board of directors' new plans.

He said that during the past couple of years, the company directed its effort to prepare the institution to be an investment bank with good financial reputation in international markets.

Qabandi said that the company has intensified its investments in Europe and the US. He noted that it initiated a treatment plan of its situation in 1985 and finished three years later. In 1985, the company rid itself of irregular assets by taking the allocations for its debts and investments in Third World countries.

He indicated that the company's capital was cut to KD12 million and then was upped to KD54 million to achieve this goal.

Operation

On other related issues, Qabandi said that the real estate construction department was transferred to one of the affiliate companies, namely the Kuwait National Company for Real Estate Management, which had its name changed to the Kuwait National Company for Real Estate Services.

He added that this company has commenced operation last Oct 1 by selecting its board, noting that the previous steps increased cash assets in the budget quite remarkably.

Qabandi said that the company will stay with its present policy toward less spending and a small staff when possible, with focus on elevating production efficiency among workers.

Europeans close ranks to secure a future in high-technology

BRUSSELS, Nov 13. (Reuters): Across Europe, once bitter rivals are joining forces in high-technology research to do battle with the United States and Japan after 1992.

Joint research to develop products of the future is a crucial plank of the European Economic Community's drive to weld 12 fragmented markets into a single unit after 1992, providing a platform for European firms to compete worldwide.

"The fact that major competitors get together and decide not only to do joint research but move to joint production is a tremendous revolution," says Jean Siotis, a senior European Economic Community official.

Competitors

"These people were cut-throat competitors for decades but they have realised what the Japanese realised a long time ago: they have to work together to survive," Siotis told Reuters in a

recent interview.

The latest child of such co-operation is JESSI, a \$4 billion research and development programme to counter Japanese dominance in semiconductors involving Siemens AG of West Germany, NV Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken of the Netherlands and the Franco-Italian group SGS-Thomson.

Markets

EEC officials say the Community's Executive Commission is poised to propose paying for up to a quarter of the bill for JESSI (joint European silicon structure industry initiative), an eight-year project due to start next year.

European industry has long suffered from the cultivation of "national champions", dominating their home markets through national favouritism but lacking economies of scale necessary to compete on world markets.

Even industries with a tech-

nological edge, such as telecommunications, have been hampered by a duplication of research efforts and the confines of small national markets.

But all this is changing as the EEC's drive to create a market with common technical standards and free of internal trade barriers gathers pace.

As EEC governments move to break national monopolies over telecommunications for instance, researchers are working to establish not just new technology but common norms so that the same equipment can be used, for example, in France and Britain.

Efforts

One danger of such efforts is that outsiders may be better placed to exploit the ready-made marketplace unless European players can also supply products people want at competitive prices, analysts say.

"If we don't set up an appropriate industrial structure,

we'll become such an attractive market that we'll end up as spectators," said economist Michel Delapierre of Paris University.

"We have to define our own kind of technology and products so that others don't impose theirs on us."

EEC officials say the community must also persuade Japan and the United States to open up their markets in return for access to the single European market.

Reciprocity

"The so-called fortress Europe will be a very open fortress, provided we obtain reciprocity. In telecommunications for instance, markets in the United States and Japan are largely protected," Siotis said.

There was no joint European research — except in nuclear energy — until the EEC's Brussels-based executive body persuaded Europe's top 12 electronics firms in the early 1980s to take part in a pioneering information technology project, Esprit.

In 1987, the EEC set up a five-year framework programme with a budget of 5.4 billion Ecu (\$6.2 billion) for basic research — ranging from telecommunications transmitting sound, text, and image simultaneously to biotechnology.

Although the framework programme only accounts for

two per cent of all European R and D spending, it already plays a crucial role in marking out strategic sectors, avoiding duplication of efforts, and giving players incentives to pool resources on projects they could not afford on their own.

It does this by offering to pay half the cost of projects proposed by partners from at least two EEC countries.

"The programmes have actually allowed people to get used to each other and for cross-fertilisation to occur," Francois Heisbourg, director of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, said.

Can European efforts succeed? "It's not clear yet. We don't yet know what the effects on market share will be," says Delapierre.

Small

A Japanese diplomat in Brussels, who asked not to be named, said EEC efforts were still insufficient and he denied EEC allegations that Japanese markets are closed.

"EEC programmes are just too small. It's a pitiful situation for the community and also for us. We're now in a very embarrassing position because people are always saying the Japanese market is closed, but it's really a political statement and far from the fact," he said.

New OPEC accord must be flexible, says Serrano

MEXICO CITY, Nov 13. (UPI): Ecuador's Energy Minister, Diego Tamariz Serrano, yesterday called on OPEC member countries to reach an immediate agreement on a new production quota system, but said any such accord must be "flexible."

Serrano, who was in Mexico City for a meeting of energy ministers of member nations of the Latin American energy organisation, or OLADE, told United Press International that "only an agreement on production quotas could bring stability to international oil markets."

"But such an agreement must be flexible because we don't know what might happen in the near future," Serrano said. "It is possible that demand for oil declines during the first quarter of the next year."

Ties

The official said his country and fellow OPEC member Venezuela are working with other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to hammer out a reasonable production accord at the organisation's upcoming Vienna meeting.

Ecuador and Venezuela are the only two Latin American OPEC members. They maintain close ties on energy matters in bilateral relations as well as within the 13-nation oil organisation and OLADE.

OPEC oil ministers that make up the organisation's pricing and strategy committees are scheduled to meet in Vienna on Nov 17 to design strategies to bolster oil prices by cutting production. OPEC's winter plenary session is slated for Nov 21.

Accord

"I am quite optimistic that OPEC will reach a reasonable agreement on production," Serrano said.

But another top official of an OPEC member nation, who asked not to be identified, said, "reaching an agreement on production quota will be difficult."

"OPEC members have many differences and they have had them for many years," the official said. "It is not easy to bring them together."

He said failure to reach a production accord at the Vienna meeting would further depress oil prices.

"The victims and sufferers (from overproduction and low prices) are and will be Indonesia, Nigeria, Venezuela and Ecuador, which have relatively large populations and are heavily dependent on oil (but) whose production costs are higher as compared to the Gulf region," he said.

He said OPEC should abandon its \$18-a-barrel target price and instead should set a reasonable goal of \$15 a barrel.

"A \$15-a-barrel price could be achieved if OPEC output is reduced from current 22 million barrels a day to about 19 million barrels a day," he said.

Venezuela's Energy Minister Julio Cesar Gil, also in Mexico City for the OLADE meeting, said on Thursday that while OPEC still hopes to see prices at \$18 a barrel, some member countries already have acknowledged that \$14 to \$16 a barrel is a more reasonable target. OPEC oil is now trading for \$10-\$11 a barrel.

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World Business Summary

S. Korea to lower import duties on 109 items

SEOUL, Nov 13. (UPI): South Korea will lower import duties on 109 items effective Nov 21, bringing the average tariff rate down to 16.6 per cent from the current 23 per cent, the Finance Ministry said yesterday. A ministry spokesman said originally the import tariff reduction was to take effect early next year but the timetable was moved up because of pressure for a further opening of the domestic market from Korea's trading partners. The move also seeks to help domestic industries easily obtain supplies of basic raw materials, the spokesman said. The spokesman said the import duties are being reduced by applying a flexible tariff system to the 109 items based on the eight-digit classification of the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature (CCCN). The target goods include 43 consumer items and 66 in the basic and auxiliary raw goods categories, the spokesman said. Under the move, import taxes will go from 20 per cent to 15 per cent on pharmaceutical products, refined sugar, laundry machines and eye glasses and to 30 per cent to 20 per cent on refrigerators, air conditioners, and cameras. Rates also will drop from 30 per cent to 25 per cent on vehicles, from 30 per cent to 20 per cent on underwear, children's clothes and wristwatches and from 100 per cent to 70 per cent on whiskies, the spokesman said.


Qatar invites bids to finance North Field gas project

BAHRAIN, Nov 13. (Reuters): Qatar has invited selected banks to bid for a stake in a \$400-million loan to help to develop its vast North Field natural gas reservoir, bankers said today. They said the Qatar General Petroleum Corp (QGPC) had chosen several banks in the region, including the Bahrain-based Gulf International Bank and Arab Banking Corporation, as possible participants in the loan. Details on pricing for the dollar-denominated loan were unclear but bids were due by Nov 30, they said. "A number of banks are looking at this seriously but at this stage everything is preliminary," one banker said. "The level of interest will depend on pricing." QGPC head Jaber Al Marri said on Thursday that work was on schedule on the first stage of the project, which began in mid-1987 and was initially estimated to cost \$1.3 billion.

Food subsidy slash announced

LUSAKA, Zambia, Nov 13. (AP): President Kenneth Kaunda yesterday announced a slash in government subsidies for Zambia's staple food, maize meal, and other essential commodities in an attempt to revamp the economy and reduce budget deficits. Kaunda said families would be registered in preparation for the rationing of maize meal, the staple diet of the majority of people in Southern Africa. His plan called for the issuing of coupons to families for a certain amount of maize at subsidized prices, the requirement that they pay higher prices for any food above the government-decreed limit, and inspectors to check markets to combat smuggling of maize. Kaunda made the announcement to 6,000 members of the extraordinary National Council of his ruling United National Independence Party, meeting for the first time since he won a presidential referendum on Oct 26. Kaunda said controls would be instituted on the sale of bread, sugar and other items the government had been heavily subsidizing. He also said that from now on, road repair work that had been carried out by the government since independence in 1964 would be done by manual labour to create more employment and reduce expenses. Kaunda said the provincial branches of the Department of Mechanical Services will be turned into companies to be run jointly with countries which give Zambia aid.

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Sudan and MF resume talks on economic reform

Khartoum, Nov. 13. (Reuters) Sudan, grappling with famine, flood and war, resumed talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) today on ways to reform its economy in return for more aid.

During 10 days of talks, Khartoum wants to win the fund's approval for its economic policies so it can revitalize some of its \$12-billion foreign debt and get fresh credits.

It is \$1 billion in arrears to the fund, the largest sum owed by any nation, and in 1986 the IMF declared it was ineligible for fresh credits.

Reforms

The IMF wants politically-sensitive reforms including a devaluation and cuts in government spending. It wants market forces to set domestic prices and loss-making state firms to be transferred to the private sector.

The two sides broke off negotiations in June because of differences over Sudan's foreign exchange system.

An informal group of aid donors is due to meet later this month to discuss Sudan's financial needs after August's floods, which made millions homeless.

The World Bank, which estimated last month that Sudan needed \$407 million to rehabilitate flood-hit areas, said it would contribute \$115 million in Khartoum raised 10 percent of the total. Other donors were expected to provide the rest.

The donor group, to meet under World Bank auspices, promised more than \$200 million last December in grants and soft loans.

Al-Tigani Al Tayeb, Minister of State for Finance, said today that last month's introduction of a two-tier exchange rate, more than doubling the official rate of 4.50 pounds to the dollar, had lured nearly \$6 million to official banking channels.

The new rate was aimed at increasing exports and attracting remittances from an estimated million Sudanese working abroad to official channels instead of the black market.

Police, invoking a state of emergency clause, detained up to 40 big black market dealers to halt the trading in the dollar, which has been a source of speculation.

Jordan seeks World Bank aid for development projects

AMMAN, Nov. 13. (Reuters) Jordanian ministers met World Bank President Barber Conable today to seek loans for a \$440-million dam and several other development projects, a senior official said.

He told Reuters the talks covered the possibility of loans to finance productive schemes and of extending a credit line to the private sector.

The major projects discussed included two to expand education and training, two to boost phosphate production and exports and one to build the Al Wahdah dam on the border with Syria.

Talks

Crown Prince Hassan led the ministers of finance, planning and mineral resources and energy at the talks with Conable, who arrived in Jordan yesterday for a three-day visit.

The state-run news agency Petra quoted Conable as telling King Hussein later that the bank was ready to support development and productive projects. It said Conable praised relations between his Washington-based bank and Amman.

Jordan received 40 loans from the bank worth \$737.5 million between 1973 and 1988, a Planning Ministry official said.

Conable was due to leave tomorrow for Saudi Arabia.

Company's performance under review

THE Reckitt & Coleman Intermarkets annual regional meeting was held on Oct 12-14 in Cyprus.

Marketing directors, export managers and product managers attended.

Intermarkets were represented by their account and co-ordinating teams from each of their offices in the UK, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Jordan and Lebanon.

The regional meeting was held to assess the company's performance over the last year for their household product brands of Jetol, Crown, Drummer, Haric, Mr Sheen and others.

The officials also discussed future plans for all their brands.

Currency wrestles with vision of higher trade deficit

Dollar could face another test on Wednesday

LONDON, Nov. 13. (Reuters) The dollar, which unexpectedly skidded to a 10-month-low after the election of market favourite George Bush, could face another test on Wednesday with the release of US trade figures for September.

The dollar's steep decline, which led to some central bank dollar buying to cushion its fall, was not the anticipated response to Bush's victory on Tuesday as the Republican candidate had clearly been the business world's choice.

Pressure built because of nagging worries about the huge US budget and trade deficits. Speculation also persisted that Bush would tolerate a lower dollar to improve America's trade performance despite US officials' remarks to the contrary.

Down

"If nothing happens over the weekend, Europe will sell the dollar again on Monday," said one trader in London. "The dollar is still going down, although there may be a few upticks along the way," said another in Frankfurt.

The currency market was focussing on Wednesday's figures for the latest monthly balance of payments.

Fair

"It's partly because financial markets perceive that the improvement is levelling off at about \$11 billion a month that the dollar has been under pressure," said Steve Slifer of Shearson Lehman Government Securities Inc.

On Friday, Commerce Secretary William Verity said in Washington that the dollar's current exchange value was fair and in London, US Treasury Undersecretary George Gould said the administration had no interest in seeing a weaker dollar.

The remarks appeared aimed at undoing the damage to the dollar caused earlier in the week when Martin Feldstein, a Bush adviser, said the currency needed to fall at least 20 per cent in the next three years if the United States was to balance its trade account.

But currency dealers said the disavowal came too late to change sentiment.

Weakest

The dollar ended in New York on Friday at 122.85 yen, its weakest close since a record low of 120.20 on January 4, and compared with 124.05 at Thursday's close.

Since Wednesday, the dollar has tumbled from 125.73 yen and has lost more than five pence against the mark to 1.7375, a five-month low.

One US dealer on Friday predicted the market would try to test record lows next week. US dealers said there were now doubts in the market about whether the Group of Seven industrial nations still agreed on exchange-rate policy.

West Germany's Bundesbank joined other central banks on Friday in buying dollars, but foreign exchange dealers said the co-ordination came too late.

"People know that G-7 is in conflict and don't place much credence in them," said Carmine Rotondo, a dealer at Security Pacific National Bank of New York. "They look more like G-2 — the Bank of Japan and the Fed (US Federal Reserve or Central Bank) supporting the dollar alone."

Stable

Other members of G-7, an informal grouping of Western nations which says it is committed to keeping exchange rates stable, are Britain, France, Italy and Canada.

"The Germans are saying we should not intervene. The Japanese are saying we should intervene and the British are saying they will keep rates tight. That does not sound like co-ordination to me," said another New York trader.

On Friday, a sliding dollar unnerved Wall Street where the Dow Jones industrial average fell 47.66 points, its biggest one-day fall since April 14, to close at 2,067.03.

Wall Street's fall spurred heavy selling in London, where the Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 blue chips closed 23.5 points lower at 1,802.7. European exporters worry that a weaker dollar will undermine their export earnings.

Strength

But the Japanese were encouraged by the strength of the yen, particularly because this would stay low and the Tokyo share market hit a record high on Friday.

The 225-share Nikkei index surged 312.00 points or 1.11 per cent to 28,478.42. The previous record was in August.

Gold also rose on the dollar weakness. The December gold contract gained 2.60 to \$423.10 an ounce on the commodity exchange in New York.

Bush rejects lower dollar policy

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13. (Reuters) A senior adviser to President-elect George Bush said today the new administration will reject advice that it seek a lower value for the dollar as a way to eliminate the high US trade deficit. Craig Fuller, a leader of Bush's White House transition team, said on NBC's Meet The Press that Bush has made the economy his top priority and will name his economic team soon.

bulletin on the trade deficit which a senior International Monetary Fund official warned on Friday could become a 'monster' by 1992.

Jacob Frenkel, IMF economic counsellor and director of research, told a conference here he doubted the US trade deficit could narrow with the dollar at current levels.

US analysts forecast at September deficit of about 10.5 to 12 billion against \$12.2 billion in August.

Full

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Balance of payments remained positive in 1987

UAE economy well on its way to a recovery

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13. (KUNA) The US Commerce Department believes that the economy of the United Arab Emirates is well on its way to a recovery and has entered a new phase of economic growth.

In a study on the UAE economy conducted by the Commerce Department for 1987 — the last year for which statistics are available, the study, acquired by KUNA, shows that gross domestic product (GDP) has grown by about 9 per cent from \$22 to 24 billion in 1987.

The survey shows that improvement of crude oil prices, which resulted in increased government revenues and better economic performance in the sectors of manufacturing, construction, banking, and trade, was the main factor behind this increase in the UAE's GDP.

The study notes that although oil revenues have sagged along with prices in 1988, they are still above the 1986 levels.

Positive

The balance of payments remained positive in 1987 in the UAE and substantially improved over 1986, the survey shows. The trade balance and current account balance picked up as a result of the improvement in the value of oil exports and a 37.5 per cent increase in non-petroleum exports and re-exports.

In 1987, the Commerce Department survey shows, the value of oil exports in the United Arab Emirates increased to \$7.90 billion from 6.86 billion in 1986.

Despite the renewed drop in oil prices in late 1987 and early 1988, and low petroleum production rates in the first quarter of 1988, higher rates of crude production since March indicate that the UAE's 1988 GDP will surpass 1987's \$24 billion.

Inflation rates in 1987 were estimated at 5 to 6 per cent by the UAE Central Bank. They are expected to continue about the same rate in 1988.

Increased

Although precise figures regarding the UAE's foreign investments are lacking, the Commerce Department study says, estimates of certain international institutions are that these investments are not less than \$50 billion.

Although the oil boom is a thing of the past, the UAE's balance of payments remained positive in 1987 and substantially increased over 1986.

The trade balance and current account balance picked up as a result of the improvement in the value of oil exports which in 1987 increased to \$7.90 billion compared to 6.86 billion in 1986.

Referring to the implications for the US, the Commerce Department believes that the depreciation of the dollar in 1986 and its unprecedented decline in 1987 against the currencies of the UAE's major trading partners continues to provide strong incentives for local traders to import goods increasingly from the United States and promote its high quality services at competitive prices.

Kuwaiti businessmen to buy more products from Cyprus

By Lima Al Khalafawi

BUSINESSMEN took advantage of trade opportunities and deals at the Cyprus Trade Exhibition which opened on Saturday at the Meridien Hotel.

Twenty companies are participating in the exhibition, promoting ready-made garments, footwear, foodstuffs, building materials, soft toys and shipping services.

The senior trade officer at the Cyprus Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Andreas N. Mavrogenis, said that the ministry organised the visit to Kuwait in co-operation with the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce.

He added that Cyprus maintains excellent trade relations with Kuwait and the rest of the Arab world. The volume of trade with Kuwait last year reached \$10 million. This was in the sale of foodstuffs, clothing, building materials and dairy products.

He said that many Kuwaiti businessmen are expressing an interest in bringing more products from Cyprus to Kuwait.



Honorary Consul of Cyprus Fahed Al Moajil (centre) tours the exhibition. (Photograph by Mohammad Abbas)

The delegation will also visit Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Bahrain. The exhibition was opened by Fahed Al Moajil, honorary consul of Cyprus.

The exhibition ends today.

Survival of coffee pact at stake

LONDON, Nov. 13. (Reuters) Survival of the international coffee agreement, one of the few commodity price-support pacts that still works, will be at stake when consumers and producers start talks in London tomorrow.

Delegates say the 50 producer and 24 consuming member nations of the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) must resolve major differences if the agreement is to be renewed beyond an expiry date next September.

The United States and many European consumers want radical changes but producers prefer minor reforms to the current pact, in force since 1983.

West German delegate Hugo Roerig said: "We are ready to work to see if we have common ground. If there is no common ground then we have a somewhat dangerous situation."

Failure to renew the agreement could send prices into free fall because of massive oversupply and stagnant demand. This would be disastrous for several debt-laden producers including Brazil, the biggest Third World debtor.

"Timing is becoming vital from now on if consumers are serious about wanting to rewrite the agreement. They've got a lot of negotiating to do," said Neil Rosser with commodity analysts Landell Mills.

Commodity pacts have faced tough times recently, with a cocoa agreement paralysed by lack of cash and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in disarray over production quotas and prices.

Consumer delegates said it was uncertain what impact the new Bush administration would have on US policy towards commodities and price stabilising agreements.

The United States has just ratified a new international natural rubber agreement.

KD deposit rates drop as dollar sales ease liquidity

KUWAIT, Nov. 13. (Reuters) Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates fell in the short days today as dollar sales eased liquidity.

Dealers said players expected the dollar to remain weak on concern over the size of the US budget deficit.

Overnight money, which shot up as high as 10 per cent yesterday, was initially offered at six per cent but last dealt at three per cent.

Tomorrow-next opened at seven, six per cent but was later offered at four per cent while spot-next slipped to 6-1/2, 5-1/2 per cent from eight, seven per cent.

Funds

One-week funds traded at 6-1/2 and 6-3/4 per cent from yesterday's eight, seven per cent.

The fixed periods were little changed at 7-1/2, seven per cent for one month, 7-3/8, 6-7/8 per cent for the two-month, 7-1/4, 6-3/4 per cent for the three-month and seven, 6-1/2 per cent for the six-month. No deals were reported.

As usual on Sundays the Central Bank kept its dinar exchange rate unchanged from yesterday at 0.27939/49 to the dollar while commercial bank spot rates firmed a trifle to around 0.27935/45.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal deposit rates were steady today as the market settled after a burst of hectic trading prompted by a Saudi statement ruling out a riyal devaluation.

Dealers said trade was minimal in normal trend during the European weekend, when many offshore players are absent.

But they said they expected another surge of activity tomorrow as banks continue to unwind long dollar positions in response to the Saudi announcement, which ended two weeks of heavy speculation against the riyal.

Liquidity

Rates fell up to 5/8 of a point yesterday as banks began selling dollars, creating an influx of riyal liquidity.

Earlier traders had borrowed dollars on the forward market amid speculation Saudi Arabia might devalue the riyal, set at 3.75 to the dollar, to help plug a persistent budget deficit.

One to three-month deposits were indicated at yesterday's closing levels of 9-3/8, 1/8 per cent while six-months to one-year were steady at 9-1/4, nine.

Spot-next and one-week funds were quoted around 1/2 point lower at 9-1/2, nine per cent but no business was reported.



Participants at the Reckitt & Coleman annual meeting.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.100	1.090	1.090	1.090	380000	19
GULF BANK	0.415	0.410	0.410	0.410	290000	7
COMMERCIAL BK	0.305	0.300	0.305	0.300	520000	17
AHLI BANK	0.380	0.370	0.370	0.370	370000	16
B.K.M.E	0.390	---	---	---	---	---
K.R.E.B.	0.390	---	---	---	---	---
BURGAM BANK	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	320000	3
K.F.HOUSE	0.550	0.540	0.540	0.540	37062	4
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KMT INV. CO.	0.146	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.142	---	---	---	---	---
CON.FACILITIES	0.480	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIA INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.100	---	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KMT	0.102	---	---	---	---	---
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KMT INSURANCE	0.730	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.350	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.580	---	---	---	---	---
MARBA INS. CO.	0.440	0.440	0.440	0.440	11000	3
REAL EST SECTOR						
KMT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.220	0.210	0.210	0.210	20000	1
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.094	0.092	0.092	0.092	40000	1
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.200	---	---	---	---	---
SALTAH R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
KMT R.E.T.CON	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.540	---	---	---	---	---
KUT M.P. IND.	0.295	---	---	---	---	---
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.255	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.390	---	---	---	---	---
N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	1.120	1.100	1.110	1.100	65000	7
K.P.H.IND. CO.	0.196	0.198	0.198	0.198	20000	1
CONT.MARINE	0.255	---	---	---	---	---
K.SH.REP.CO.	0.045	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	---	---	---	---	---
K.M.C.CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
KMT HOTELS CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	---
P.MAREHOUSING	0.156	---	---	---	---	---
COM.MKT.CHPP.	0.017	---	---	---	---	---
MOBILE TELE.	0.335	---	---	---	---	---
KUT COMPUTER	0.172	---	---	---	---	---
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.228	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD FISHERIES	0.154	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.216	---	---	---	---	---
KUT FOODS	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KUT SECTOR						
BHN.INTER.BK	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	1080000	4
BHN.N.EAST.BK	0.052	0.051	0.051	0.051	80000	1
UNTD GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
CONST INVEST.	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	80000	2
A.G. INV. CORP	0.034	---	---	---	---	---
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.G.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---

AMMAN

FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
PEARL INV. CO.	0.098	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INV. CO.	0.041	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INTL INS	0.009	---	---	---	---	---
ARAB INT CO.	0.055	---	---	---	---	---
SHARJAH INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF UNION INS	0.070	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-GULF MEDICAL	0.028	---	---	---	---	---
C.R.K.WHITE CMNT	0.024	---	---	---	---	---
D-AMMAN CEMENT	0.007	---	---	---	---	---
E-FUJAIRAH CEMENT	0.007	---	---	---	---	---
F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---
G-GULF CEMENT	0.016	---	---	---	---	---
H-UMM QATAIN	0.022	---	---	---	---	---
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.57	0.56	---	---	---	---
JOR LIN SPICK	0.22	0.23	---	---	---	---
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50	---	---	---	---
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.75	2.77	---	---	---	---
JOR PAPER CARDBOARD	5.81	5.80	---	---	---	---
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.77	3.70	---	---	---	---
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.45	1.43	---	---	---	---
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.15	---	---	---	---
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40	---	---	---	---
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.89	0.91	---	---	---	---
JOR SECURITY CORP	0.78	0.79	---	---	---	---
JOR SELPHO CHEN.	2.89	2.95	---	---	---	---
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.51	1.51	---	---	---	---
JOR WORSTED MLL	4.83	5.00	---	---	---	---
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00	0.93	---	---	---	---
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	8.46	8.60	---	---	---	---
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.20	5.34	---	---	---	---
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	2.37	2.37	---	---	---	---
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.36	0.36	---	---	---	---
JORDAN DAIRY	1.10	1.09	---	---	---	---
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.33	1.31	---	---	---	---
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95	---	---	---	---
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90	---	---	---	---
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	1.90	1.84	---	---	---	---
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.60	1.60	---	---	---	---
JORDAN TANNING	1.95	1.95	---	---	---	---
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.70	0.73	---	---	---	---
MACH/EQU/RENT/MAIN	0.81	0.81	---	---	---	---
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73	---	---	---	---
HIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.40	---	---	---	---
HIDDEL EAST INS	60.00	60.00	---	---	---	---
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.67	0.74	---	---	---	---
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	2.36	2.35	---	---	---	---
NAT/CABLE/PURE/WF	1.13	1.14	---	---	---	---
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.36	1.35	---	---	---	---
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.37	0.39	---	---	---	---
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.88	0.91	---	---	---	---
NATIONAL STEEL	2.98	2.99	---	---	---	---
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28	---	---	---	---
PETRA BANK	2.41	2.42	---	---	---	---
PETRA JOR.INS.	0.35	0.35	---	---	---	---
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.01	1.01	---	---	---	---
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.75	0.75	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.52	0.54	---	---	---	---
SHIPPING LINES	1.00	0.99	---	---	---	---
SPINNING WEAVING	0.98	0.98	---	---	---	---
THE HOUSING BANK	1.94	2.00	---	---	---	---
UNITED INSURANCE	1.10	1.15	---	---	---	---
UNIVERSAL CHEM.IND	1.96	2.01	---	---	---	---
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.79	0.78	---	---	---	---
WOOLLEN INDUSTRIES	0.82	0.81	---	---	---	---
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.23	1.26	---	---	---	---

Debt strategy talks planned

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov. 13. (AP) Latin nations will meet in late November to discuss common strategies for dealing with the region's \$400 billion foreign debt, Brazil's finance minister said in an interview published today.

"We Latin Americans don't want a confrontation with creditors, but we don't accept the situation as it is today," Finance Minister, Malloin da Nobrega said in an interview published by Rio's respected Jornal do Brasil newspaper.

"We are trying to pay but we can't continue sending 4-5 per cent of the gross national product abroad each year in debt interest payments. We can't sustain this in the long run."

Da Nobrega said economists from "all Latin nations" would meet in Brazil in late November, to prepare for a meeting of Latin American finance ministers on December 11th and 12th.

Step

"In the United States, the idea is also maturing that without taking another step in the debt crisis there won't be development in Latin America," Da Nobrega told the newspaper.

"We Latin nations want to act politically to accelerate the adoption of measures that are in the air. Everyone feels something will happen as early as next year."

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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FAHAHEEL, near the water filling station. One independent CAC room with kitchen and tele. facilities for Indian bachelors. Tele. Mr. Verma, 3922106, after 4.45 pm. (AT1-44781-3)

FAHAHEEL, accommodation for 2 Indian bachelors, to share a large room from 1st December. Rent KD35 each. Tele. Fred, 3922169, after 4.30 pm. (AT2-44797-2)

SALMIYA, near Amman Street signal and Babul Khali Supermarket, Building No. 48, Flat 11. One room in a double bedroom flat for an Indian family. Tele. 5631566, 8 am - 12 noon, 3 - 7 pm. (AT2-44805-3)

KUWAIT City, accommodation for Goan bachelors, to share with a Goan family. Tele. Mr. Dominic, 2441496. (AT2-44800-2)

AMMAN Street, Sulaiman Adhu Sani Street, Area 10, Building 16, one room for a family or three bachelors. Tele. Mr. Perumal, 5657164. (AT2-44809-3)

KUWAIT City, Darwaza. Accommodation in a separate, big room for a working girl to share with a small Indian family. Only those interested may tele. 2449501 ext. 2578, 8 am - 1.30 pm. (AT3-44812-3)

FAHAHEEL, near the cinema hall. Room for bachelors or a couple. Tele. 3928512, 5 - 7 pm. (AT3-44824-3)

NUGRA, Hawaii. Furnished accommodation for a couple or two bachelors. Tele. 2627643. (AT3-44826-2)

Wanted

REQUIRED a flat to share from 1st December or a room to rent for European lady preferably in Salmiya or Rumaythiya. Tele. 4715622 ext. 110, 7.30 am - 12.30 pm, 4 - 7 pm. (AT3-44820-3)

For Rent

QORTUBA, between 2 streets at the corner. Deluxe 2 floors of villa with basement, 2 rooms, 1 bathroom on the second floor including the outside building (mulhaq). Tele. Mr. Khaled, 2523177, 2523259, mornings. Mr. Nidal, 2407900 evenings. (AT3-44816-3)

RUMAYTHIYA, one floor of a new villa: 9 rooms, 3 halls, 4 kitchens, 5 bathrooms, with normal heating and garage including the outside building (mulhaq). Tele. Mr. Khalil, 5334001, 10 am - 4 pm. (AT3-K-TM-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

ISUZU Trooper Jeep 1983 for sale. For further information please tele. 4894315, anytime. (AT2-44803-3)

CITROEN BX 19GT, Sept 1986, manual, 5 gears with sunroof and AC, in good condition. KD1500 cash. Tele. 2421303. (AT1-44772-3)

MITSUBISHI Sapporo 1983, black exterior with alloy wheels, sunroof, low mileage and full options, in immaculate condition. Reasonable price. For further information please tele. 5611522. (AT1-44770-3)

HONDA Prelude 1982, automatic, red with AC and sunroof. One owner, in very good condition. KD850. Tele. 5653952, 9035881. (AT3-44825-3)

OLDSMOBILE Cutlass 1985, blue in good condition. KD1450. Tele. Mr. Rada Ali, 4842988 ext. 4139, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT3-44801-3)

GOLF GTI 16V '87 model, bought in 1988, brand new, black. KD4700. Tele. 4838523, 9 am - 1 pm, 5 - 7 pm. (AT3-44822-3)

Miscellaneous

COLLECTION OF old stamps and coins for sale. Tele. Mr. Nader, 4717421. (AT4-44895-6)

WOODEN table, chairs and sideboard, infant's car seat, American sized double bed, assortment of water skis, model air planes for sale. Tele. 3715135. (AT3-44813-3)

FARWANIYA, large furnished 2 bedroom flat with phone for sale. Rent KD170 including water. Will consider selling separately: AC's, sofas, dining set etc. Tele. Pais, 4738215, after 2 pm. (AT2-44806-2)

HOUSEHOLD items, including sofa set, dining table with 8 chairs, well unit, cooking range, curtains etc. for sale. Tele. Mr. Hasan, 3901837. (AT1-44775-3)

BRAND new furniture for drawing and dining rooms for sale. Tele. 5654183. (AT1-44768-3)

WESTINGHOUSE washing machine and dryer, one unit, heavy duty, fully automatic, white colour, only 2 years old, in excellent condition. KD130 or best offer. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. 3712747. (AT1-44779-3)

Boats

SAILING yacht "Lemons", 32 foot Eliminator fast cruiser/racer. Recent refit. Full sail wardrobe 10HP diesel, 5 knots. Berthed at Shaab yacht club. KD 7,500. Tele. 5380791. (AT2-44791-6)

AMERICAN 22-ft motor boat 1987 twin Volvo Penta engines HP520, in mint condition, owned by a diplomat for immediate sale. KD6,500. Tele. 2467241, 9 am - 2 pm. (AT1-44789-3)

MARINA, 26ft, with 2 Volvo Penta engines, in excellent condition. Best price. Tele. Mr. Jacob, 3990745, 3980463. (AT2-44804-3)

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OVERSEAS FINANCIAL SERVICES

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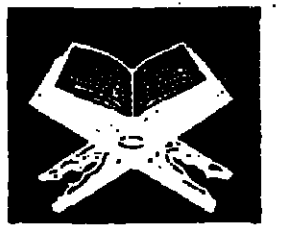
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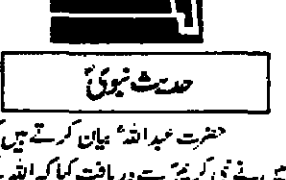


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HADLEE TAKES FIVE WICKETS

Kiwis fight back against Indians



Raman (right) looks back in anguish as his stumps are uprooted by Hadlee. (Reuter wirephoto)

BANGALORE, India, Nov 13. (Reuter): Richard Hadlee took five wickets in a Test innings for the 33rd time to lead New Zealand's fightback in the first cricket Test against India today.

Hadlee took five for 65 on a slow, unresponsive pitch before India declared their first innings at 384 for nine after rain caused an hour's play to be lost after tea.

Spin
New Zealand openers John Wright and Trevor Franklin survived six overs of seam and spin to score nine in the last 20 minutes.

For India, Ravi Shastri completed a painstaking 54 off 178 balls before driving Evan Gray straight to point, and Kiran More, in a more enterprising 97-ball stay, fell four short of a deserved half-century.

The pair put on 84 for the eighth wicket after India had suffered a mini-collapse before lunch and surrendered their overnight advantage.

Hadlee, who yesterday became the most prolific wicket-taker in Tests when he claimed his 374th victim, was almost

entirely responsible for the New Zealand fightback today, although Ewen Chatfield bowled 15 accurate overs from which he conceded only 24 runs and claimed the important wicket of Kapil Dev.

Hadlee's devastating new-ball burst knifed through the Indian middle order and brought him three wickets for only six runs in his first six overs of the day.

Wokeri Raman was comprehensively bowled, Mohammad Azharuddin caught behind off a beauty that left him off the wicket and Dilip Vengsarkar yorked by probably Hadlee's quickest delivery of the innings.

Had Mark Greatbatch held on to a straightforward chance at first slip before Kapil Dev had scored, Hadlee would have had figures of six for 44.

It was another day of toil for the New Zealand spinners. Gray reeled off a total of 45 overs in the innings taking two for 128, while the out-of-form John Bracewell was given only nine overs today which cost him 31 runs.

An ecstatic Chris Kuggeleijn did, however, manage to take his

first wicket in Test cricket when More played across the line and was leg before for 46.

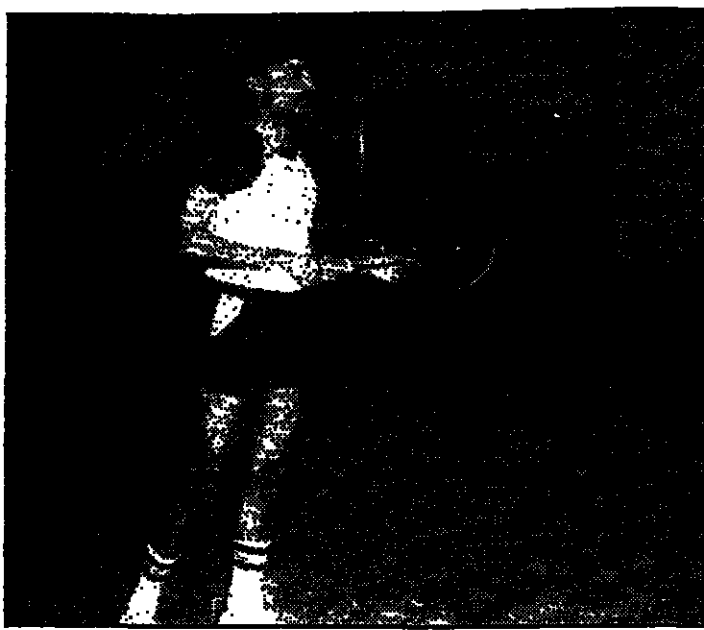
Scoreboard

INDIA first innings (overnight 243 for three)	
K. Srikkanth b Hadlee	1
Arav Lal c Kuggeleijn b Hadlee	6
N. Srinivas c Jones b Gray	116
D. Vengsarkar b Hadlee	75
M. Azharuddin c Smith b Hadlee	42
W. Raman b Hadlee	3
R. Shastri c Rutherford b Gray	54
Kapil Dev c Jones b Chatfield	24
K. More lbw b Kuggeleijn	46
A. Ayub not out	2
N. Hirwani not out	0
Extras (b-4 lb-4 nb-7)	384
Fall of wickets: 1-9 2-10 3-236 4-244 5-254 6-258 7-294 8-378 9-384.	
Bowling: Hadlee 30-10-65-5, Chatfield 30-12-63-1, Kuggeleijn 13-2-80-1, Gray 45-8-128-2, Bracewell 24-1-80-0.	

New Zealand first innings

T. Franklin not out	5
J. Wright not out	4
Extras	0
Total (for no wicket)	9
To bat: A. Jones, K. Rutherford, M. Greatbatch, C. Kuggeleijn, R. Hadlee, J. Bracewell, I. Smith, E. Gray, E. Chatfield.	
Bowling to date: Kapil Dev 3-1-9-0, Ayub 2-1-1-0, Hirwani 1-1-0-0.	

Faiz top-seeded for badminton tourney



Faiz: Kuwait's best over the years

FAIZ MOHYUDDIN, the former Kuwait badminton champion, has been top-seeded for the Kuwait Badminton Open scheduled to be held at the Hubara courts from Saturday, Nov 19. The tournament is being patronised by the Ahmadi governor Sheikh Ali Salem Al Sabah.

Faiz was Kuwait champion from 1983 to 1986 but lost his crown last year when he opted out of the tournament. Until then he had taken every title that came his way.

Partner

He was also the triple title holder for three consecutive years. Besides the singles event, Faiz has also been top-seeded in the mixed doubles. His partner in the mixed doubles is Reeny John, last year's ladies singles champion and again the top seed in that event this year.

Mathew K. Thomas, last year's men's champion, is the number two seed in the men's singles while Suja Varghese takes this slot in the ladies event.

In the men's doubles, K. Thomas and J. Varghese are the top seeds while C. George and G. Joseph have been seeded second. The ladies doubles will have Reeny John and Suja Varghese as number one and V. Kutty and A. Kutty as number two seeds.

The husband and wife team of P.K. and D. Sathesh have been seeded second behind Faiz and Reeny in the mixed doubles.

The event, which has drawn over 80 entries, will start everyday at 7.00pm and end at 10.00 pm. The finals will be played on Thursday, Nov 24, at 5.00 pm.

The prizes will be given away by the Ahmadi governor.

Navratilova and Evert reach final

CHICAGO, Nov 13. (Reuter): Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert, the top two seeds, advanced yesterday to the championship match of the \$250,000 Chicago tennis tournament.

Navratilova, the defending champion bidding for a ninth tourney title, eliminated fifth seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, 6-4 6-3. Evert, playing here for the first time in eight years, ousted Bulgaria's Manuela Maleeva 6-4 2-6 6-2.

The Evert-Maleeva battle lasted two hours three minutes, with Evert deciding it by winning the first five games of the final set. She overcame five aces by the Bulgarian.

Perfection

"In the first five games of the third set I played to a different level," said Evert. "We always have close matches because we have similar games."

"I was playing well, but she played out of her mind, almost perfection," said Maleeva.

Navratilova gained her first service break in the ninth game and found the going easy after that, breaking Sukova in the first game of the second set to take control of the match.

"I'm fairly happy," said Navratilova. "The first set was closer than I wanted, but she served better and played better, than she did when we played last week," referring to her easy victory over Sukova in a tournament in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Graf seeks to end season with victory

NEW YORK, Nov 13. (Reuter): World number one Steffi Graf aims to cap her near-perfect year at the season-ending, million-dollar Women's Tennis Championships beginning tomorrow.

The West German teenager added an Olympic gold medal to her historic Grand Slam in a year in which she has lost just twice—to doubles partner Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

Graf, who opens her defence in the 16-woman tournament tomorrow night against compatriot Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, said: "This championship is very important to me." "It will be a tough event with all the top players there, but I am confident."

"To win it would conclude an incredible year for me." Because Graf has had one of the finest years in tennis history, the rest of the field welcome the chance of creating the upset of the year at the big money season finale.

"I definitely see it as an opportunity," said American Zina Garrison, ranked ninth in the world.

Cleveland brush aside Indiana

NEW YORK, Nov 13. (AP): Larry Nance, Ron Harper and Brad Daugherty each scored 14 points in the first half and Cleveland made 17 of its first 20 shots last night as the undefeated Cavaliers beat the winless Indiana Pacers 121-96.

Cleveland, 4-0, matched its best start since 1976-77, when the Cavaliers opened with eight straight victories. Dating to the end of the regular season last year, the Cavaliers have won eight games in a row and 10 straight at home.

Daugherty led Cleveland with 22 points. Anthony Frederick scored 19 points, his first in the NBA, to lead Indiana, 0-5.

In other games, it was New York 111, Washington 101; Atlanta 132, Charlotte 111; New Jersey 97, Chicago 91; Dallas 111, Sacramento 71; Milwaukee 108, Boston 100; Utah 105, San Antonio 96; Denver 141; Seattle 129; Los Angeles 138, Phoenix 127; and Golden State 107, Portland 100.

Knicks 111, Bulls 101: Mark Jackson and Patrick Ewing scored 21 points and the Knicks won their fourth straight, their longest winning streak since March 1987.

Hawks 132, Hornets 111: Reggie Theus scored 27 points and Moses Malone added 20 as the Atlanta Hawks outscored Charlotte 40-25 in the fourth quarter. Charlotte has lost four of its first five.

Richards hits 100th first-class ton

SYDNEY, Australia, Nov 13. (Reuter): West Indies skipper Viv Richards scored his 100th first-class century to haul his side out of trouble against New South Wales today.

But fast bowler Geoff Lawson could only lament that his five-wicket haul against the touring team came too late to influence the Australian selectors who announced the 12 for the first Test starting in Brisbane on Friday.

Ovation
Richards' 101, scored from 170 balls, helped West Indies—at one stage 85 for four—to 329 in reply to New South Wales' 401 for eight declared.

The state side were 89 for one in their second innings at the close of the third day of the four-day game.

A crowd of 6,500 gave Richards a standing ovation

when he deftly glanced off-spinner Greg Matthews for two to fine leg to become the 22nd player to reach the milestone of a century of first-class hundreds.

"I suppose I'll cherish it for a long time," said Richards of his achievement.

"I'm not an individual who tries to savour these things, but I'm proud to be the first West Indian to reach this particular landmark."

Richards was eventually dismissed during the afternoon session by Michael Whitney after hitting 15 boundaries and a huge six. Lawson then took centre stage, cleaning up the West Indies to fall to finish with five for 69 off 24.2 overs.

The 30-year-old Lawson, missing from the Test scene for two years, troubled all the batsmen, including Richards whom he subdued in a spell of six consecutive maidens late yesterday.

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Scoreboard

NEW SOUTH WALES first innings 401 for eight declared (M. Taylor 82, J. Dyson 79, S. Smith 63, P. Taylor 50 not out)	
WEST INDIES first innings (overnight 138 for four)	
D. Haynes c M. Taylor b Whitney	13
R. Richardson c P. Taylor b Matthews	41
K. Arthurton c S. Waugh b P. Taylor	7
C. Hooper b Matthews	22
G. Logie lbw b Lawson	28
V. Richards c Bayliss b Whitney	101
R. Harper lbw b Lawson	46
D. Williams c P. Taylor b Lawson	4
W. Benjamin not out	28
L. Bishop c Bayliss b Lawson	28
P. Patterson lbw b Lawson	11
Extras (lb-7 nb-1)	8
Total	329
Fall of wickets: 1-252 2-473 3-80 4-85 5-151 6-264 7-268 8-268 9-305	
Bowling: Lawson 24-10-69-5, Whitney 21-3-62-2, Matthews 23-4-77-2, P. Taylor 21-4-72-1, S. Waugh	

Marsh and Veletta slam Tasmania

SYDNEY, Australia, Nov 13. (Reuter): Geoff Marsh and Mike Veletta celebrated their selection for the Australian 12 for the first Test against West Indies today by completing a record opening partnership for Western Australia against Tasmania.

They put on 310, Marsh hitting 223, Veletta 157 and Tom Moody weighing in with 112 not out as Western Australia amassed 502 for two declared on the third day of the four-day Sheffield Shield match.

Tasmania, trailing by 289

runs, got off to a good start in their second innings. Glenn Hughes and Test opener David Boon putting on 108 for the first wicket.

Hughes fell to the last ball of the day, taken at first slip by Terry Alderman off the bowling of Tom Hogan for 45, Boon remaining 61 not out.

In Melbourne, Victoria opener Dav Whatmore scored a patient 90 spanning seven hours as his side laboured to 270 for seven in their second innings—only 113 ahead of Queensland.

Dean Jones continued his recent run of poor form. He was out to the third ball of the day before he had added to his overnight score of 12.

Scores

In Melbourne: Victoria 103 and 270 for seven (Dav Whatmore 90), Queensland 260.	
In Hobart: Tasmania 213 and 108 for one (David Boon 61 not out), Western Australia 502 for two declared (Geoff Marsh 223, Mike Veletta 157, Tom Moody 112 not out).	

Mecir clinches Stuttgart title

STUTTGART, West Germany, Nov 13. (Reuter): Olympic champion Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia gave a classic display of his own brand of cool, calculated tennis to beat Ecuador's Andres Gomez 6-3 6-2 in the Stuttgart Classic tennis final today.

The 24-year-old Mecir, rarely showing any emotion, ground down Gomez with some superbly accurate play from the back of the court to win in just 75 minutes.

Al Khajah retain crown

By Yakub Razzaque

BAHRAIN: Defending champions Al Khajah retained their title by defeating underdogs Atlas Hotel by 82-62 in the final of the Filipino Sports and Civic Club's summer basketball tournament at the Jufair Sports Hall on Friday.

Al Khajah were in a relentless mood as right from the start they outplayed and outclassed an ordinary looking Atlas Hotel. The champions showed their true colours as they gave a superb demonstration of their all-round skills. They dominated the proceedings throughout a lustre final which failed to live up to expectations.

Failed

The match was totally one-sided and the champions did not confront the challenge they expected. Atlas—who won many

friends with their consistently good performances during the tournament—surprisingly failed to deliver the goods in the final. Perhaps awed by the reputation of their opponents they failed to show the full potential of their skills.

For Al Khajah Poi Melendres gave an outstanding all-round performance, playing both anchor and offensive roles with ease.

Final score: Al Khajah beat Atlas Hotel by 82-62.

In the earlier match DHL, generally regarded as Al Khajah's main challengers for the title, were relegated to fourth position after they went down to Kainan Sa Kanama by four points in an exciting tie. Score 64-68.

It was a disappointing end for DHL in the tournament, who looked at one stage favourites to take the title after beating Al Khajah convincingly in the play-offs.

Perez stakes claim for place in Cup squad

PARIS, Nov 13. (Reuter): Little Paris Saint-Germain winger Christian Perez staked his claim for a place in France's World Cup team to play Yugoslavia next week by notching two vital goals yesterday to keep the leaders on top of the table.

Perez, one of three uncapped players called up by new national team chief Michel Platini, pounced in the 41st and 73rd minutes as Paris Saint-Germain struggled to overcome bottom club Lens 3-2 at the Parc des Princes.

The narrow victory gave the Paris club the leadership at the halfway stage of the season with 40 points but they remain only a single point ahead of Auxerre.

The unheralded side from central France beat Marseille 1-0 at home in the match of the day, thanks to a last gasp winner from stopper William Puerrier.

Marseille stay third but are five points adrift of Auxerre in a championship which threatens to become a two-horse race between a pair of clubs who were in few experts' reckoning before the season started.

Paris Saint-Germain looked ready to cruise to an expected easy win when striker Daniel Xuereb, dropped by Platini, scored to remind the new French boss of his goal-poaching skills.

But Algerian Cherif Oudjani, who scored twice last week when Lens won their first home match of the campaign 5-0, equalised and Pole Cezary Tobollik, another two-goal man last Saturday, cancelled out Perez' first effort in the 70th minute.

But the stylish Frenchman was not to be outdone, winning the match with a second brilliant solo effort three minutes later.

Monsaco, perhaps tired from the exertion of slamming club Bruges 6-1 in the European Cup on Wednesday, were surprisingly held 1-1 at home by Metz and fell to fifth behind Nantes, 2-1 winners in nearby Cannes.

English striker Mark Hateley, playing in his first League game for 10 weeks after a groin injury, missed a penalty 15 minutes from time.

Romario scores hat-trick

AMSTERDAM, Nov 13. (Reuter): Seoul Olympics top-scorer Romario Faria scored a hat-trick in only his second game with European champions PSV Eindhoven as they beat newcomers RKC 5-2 in the Dutch Soccer First Division yesterday.

Putting critics of PSV's recent \$2.8 million investment firmly in their place, Romario hammered home a powerful long shot in the 12th minute, only two minutes after Joul Elferman opened the score for the champions.

Held
Romario missed a brilliant chance just before half-time but just two minutes into the second half he made it 3-0. He was there again 10 minutes later with a precision pass to Ronald Koeman, who was fouled and converted the penalty.

Five minutes later, the Brazilian completed PSV's total when he converted a powerful free-kick by Koeman.

Careless defence by the Eindhoven side enabled RKC to narrow the gap through goals by Cees Schapendonk and Adrie Bogers.

The win strengthened PSV's hold on top spot with 23 points from 14 matches, followed by Twente with 16 from 12.

Romario's showing clearly pleased PSV coach Guus Hiddink, who is keen to sharpen the striking power of his injury-hit side.

Romario has shown his class... He's been with us for just two weeks. I think he's convinced everyone," Hiddink said, noting press comments doubting Faria's capacity to acclimatise.



Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Zeeshan wins

KUMAMOTO, Japan, Nov 13. (AP): No. 1 seed Zeeshan Ali of India defeated American Miguel Duno 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, the No. 8 seed, today in three sets to win the Kumamoto tournament of the Japan Dunlop tennis satellite circuit.

Stoke triumphs

STOKE, England, Nov 13. (Reuters): Stoke beat Hull 4-0 (half-time 1-0) in an English Football League Division Two soccer match today.

Gary Stevens

LONDON, Nov 13. (Reuters): Tottenham defender Gary Stevens will be out of soccer for about three months with knee damage sustained in his team's 3-2 home win over Wimbledon yesterday, but the injury is less serious than was first thought.

Chess Olympiad

SALONIKA, Greece, Nov 13. (Reuters): The 28th Chess Olympiad began today, with the Soviet Union favourites to retain the title they last won in Dubai in 1986.

Title fight

OSAKA, Japan, Nov 13. (Reuters): Napa Katwanchai of Thailand won the World Boxing Council (WBC) straw-weight title from Japanese champion Hiroki Ioka on a majority decision after 12 rounds today.

Coach banned

ROME, Nov 13. (Reuters): PAOK Salonika coach John Neumann has been banned from international basketball for two years for flooring Italian referee Alberto Grossi and his team has been thrown out of this year's Korac Cup competition.

Connors qualifies

NEW YORK, Nov 13. (AP): Jimmy Connors, who first competed in the event in 1972, has become the sixth player to qualify for the \$750,000 Nabisco Masters, tournament director Eugene L. Scott announced yesterday.

SENNA TAKES 2ND PLACE IN FINAL RACE OF 1988 SEASON

Prost wins Australian Grand Prix

ADELAIDE, Nov 13. (Reuters): Alain Prost of France won the final race of the 1988 Formula One motor racing season, and the last of the turbo charged era, driving a Honda McLaren in the Australian Grand Prix today.

Prost surged to the front after an excellent start and led the field for 14 laps before the Ferrari of Gerhard Berger, last year's Australian Grand Prix winner, squeezed past him at the end of the long straight.

Attempted

As Prost started to close again on Berger, the Austrian crashed when he attempted to pass the Ligier of back-marker Rene Arnoux, putting both of them out of the race.

This opened the door for Prost and Brazilian world champion team-mate Ayrton Senna to dominate the remainder of the 82-lap race around the demanding 3.78 km (2.36 mile) street circuit.

Prost won by 36.787 seconds from Senna, who finished the race with a broken second gear. Brazilian Nelson Piquet was third in a Lotus with Italy's Riccardo Patrese fourth in a

Williams.

Thierry Boutsen in a Benetton finished fifth despite running with a broken exhaust in the last 10 laps and Italian Ivan Capelli was sixth in a March.

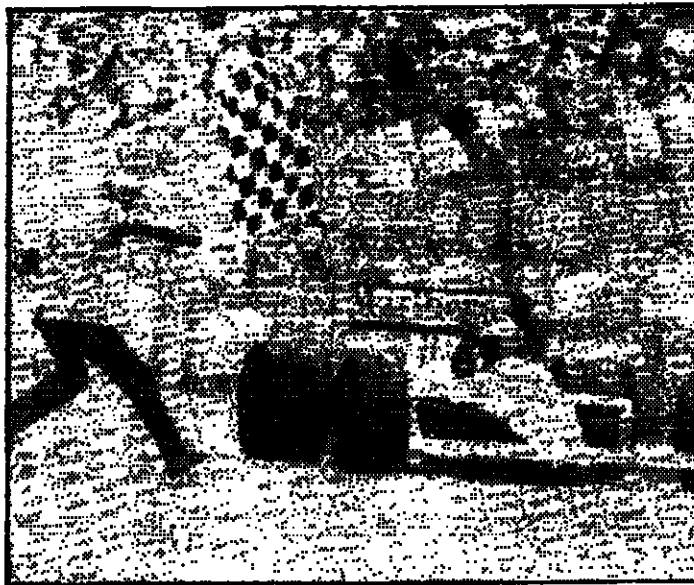
Briton Nigel Mansell, making his last appearance in a Grand Prix with Williams before joining Ferrari, was forced to retire on his 66th lap due to brake failure.

Prost's victory was a record 35th of his career and his second in Adelaide. He previously won in 1986. He said the circuit was "very, very difficult...if you push hard. You have to do everything right."

Prost said he was never worried about Berger because the Austrian had told him he expected to have fuel consumption problems and was unlikely to finish.

World champion Senna, driving despite the handicap of a painful sprained wrist, suffered gearbox problems. He had to drive without second or first gears for much of the race.

"My sprained wrist didn't help," he said. "But it was the gearbox jumping out which was the real problem. I had to hold the gears in and the lever started



Prost gets the chequered flag. (Reuters wirephoto)

kicking back."

"It was bad, but we made it...I was struggling with the fuel too. It was a hard task to finish the race."

Senna clinched the world title with victory in the Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka on October 20.

Prost, who said he did not question Senna's merit as champion, criticised the complicated scoring system which has prevented him winning a third world title despite having the most consistent record.

The Frenchman, world champion in 1985 and 1986, said the

system in which a driver can count only his 11 best results towards the championship was illogical and should be replaced.

He said the three point difference between first and second should be increased and all Grands Prix should count.

If all the races and points scored were taken into consideration this season, Prost would have finished with an overall total of 105 points from 16 races and Senna with 94.

Under the present scoring system, Prost finished the year with 87 points and Senna with 90.

Tactics

McLaren team chief Ron Dennis said: "This was probably the best one-two ever if you take account of the tactics we had to use to keep Ayrton in second place."

The all-conquering Honda turbo-powered team finished the season with a record 199 points in the Constructors' championship after winning 15 of the 16 Grands Prix.

Their only defeat came at Monza where Berger won the Italian Grand Prix.

Strange hits birdies for one-stroke lead

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif., Nov 13. (Reuters): Curtis Strange needed a pair of late birdies yesterday to regain the lead of the \$2 million Nabisco Championships of Golf with a three-round total of 11-under-par 205.

Strange, the US Open champion who led after the first and second rounds, finished the day with a two-under 70 for a one stroke lead over Mark Calcavecchia and Ken Green.

Calcavecchia, who started the round in a tie for 11th place, shot a seven-under 65 to move into strong contention for the \$360,000 winner's cheque. Green retained a share of second place with a three-under 69.

Tom Kite bogeyed the 17th hole and dropped back into a three-way tie for fourth place with Payne Stewart and Bruce Lietzke at nine-under 207.

Stewart, in 19th place after two rounds, equalled the low round of the tournament with a brilliant eight-under 64.

Strange had an eagle-three at

the second hole as he reached the green in two and sank a 20-foot putt. He added birdies at the sixth and eighth holes, but bogeys on seven, nine, 11 and 12 cost Strange the lead.

Strange rebounded with birdies on the 15th and 16th holes to recapture first place.

"I made some mistakes," Strange said. "But I'm happy with the way I came back."

"I played well but when I made bogey, I just hit the ball in places where I couldn't save my pars," he said.

Calcavecchia carded seven birdies in his bogey-free round. His last birdie on the par-five 18th secured a share of second place.

Green also came on strong down the stretch. After consecutive bogeys on eight and nine, Green birdied three of his last five holes.

Sandy Lyle of Britain posted his best round of the week — a four-under 68 — but was still well back in a tie for 15th place at five-under 211.



● Hisham Abdullah (2nd right) proved to be the best in Kuwait on the Rothmans Rally Simulator when he won the final of the competition at the rear parking of The Sultan Center on Thursday. Abdullah Saqr was second and Ans Youssef third. The prizes were presented to the winners by Saeed Al Hajri (extreme right).

Lendl wants to regain top ranking

STUTTGART, West Germany, Nov 13. (Reuters): Ivan Lendl has a repaired shoulder, renewed enthusiasm and a redesigned racket. All he wants now is to regain his top world ranking.

The Czechoslovak has been out of action for four of the last 12 months with a damaged right shoulder, and in September lost the number one ranking he had held for three years when he was beaten in the US Open final by Sweden's Mats Wilander.

For the past week he has been playing in the Stuttgart Classic and despite two defeats, feels he is "far ahead of schedule" in his quest to make it back to the top.

"I have had a frustrating year with the shoulder. But now it has been operated on everything should be fine," he said. "I'm back mentally fresh and looking forward to starting a new year."

However, he admits it will take more than renewed enthusiasm — and the new racket he is working on — to start winning major tournaments again. "I lost mental confidence in my time off and that is what I need to get back."

Confident

"It's all down to the way it feels in my head rather than in my hand... deep down I am confident I am going to be able to play as well as I did before."

Surgeons delving into the star's shoulder found three problems — with cartilage, ligaments and joints. But the operation went so successfully that just six weeks later, Lendl was back playing against the best players in the world here.

In normal circumstances he would have regarded his results in the round-robin event as disappointing. After beating American Tim Mayotte in his first match, he failed to reach the semifinal stage after losing to outsider Carl-Uwe Steeb of West Germany and American John McEnroe.

But in the light of his recent

problems, he is happy with his progress.

"It's annoying losing but I suppose you have to expect it when you are just coming back," he said.

"It may sound silly but I feel I am far ahead of schedule in just two weeks playing and after a layoff."

The work done on Lendl's shoulder by surgeons is only part of the restoration process. The former world number one has also called in computer and racket-design experts.

Ballesteros wins Taiheiyo event

GOTEMBA, Japan, Nov 13. (Reuters): British Open champion Severiano Ballesteros shot a final round 71 to win the 100 million yen (\$800,000) Taiheiyo Masters golf tournament by three strokes today.

Starting with a one-stroke lead, Ballesteros recovered from two early bogeys to finish one under for the day and seven under for the tournament on 281.

Yasuhiro Funatogawa, the Japanese defending champion, shared the day's lowest score of 69, to finish second.

Toyota clinches two titles from Oman one-two win!



Celebrating Toyota Celica Turbo's victory in Oman: Bjorn Waldegard and Fred Gallagher (left).



Ahmed bin Khalifa and Ronan Morgan (right).

Toyota's impressive one-two victory in Oman has earned the team the coveted FISA Middle East Rally Championship Manufacturer's Trophy for the third successive year, and Ronan Morgan his well-deserved Navigator's Title, in the 1988 Middle East Rally Championship.

It's the season's most spectacular victory and it has set the pace for the grand finale in Dubai next month, strengthening our abiding belief that commitment to quality has its own rewards.

Oman International Rally '88 Winners

The Team	Position	Time
Bjorn Waldegard/ Fred Gallagher	1st	3 hrs., 19 mins., 55 secs.
Ahmed bin Khalifa/ Ronan Morgan	2nd	3 hrs., 34 mins., 9 secs.

Toyota's Tally	
Oman International Rally	1st overall
Oman International Rally	2nd overall
FISA Middle East Rally	Manufacturer's Award
Championship Manufacturer's Award	1st
FISA Middle East Rally	Championship Navigator's Award
Championship Navigator's Award	1st

TOYOTA
TEAM MIDDLE EAST

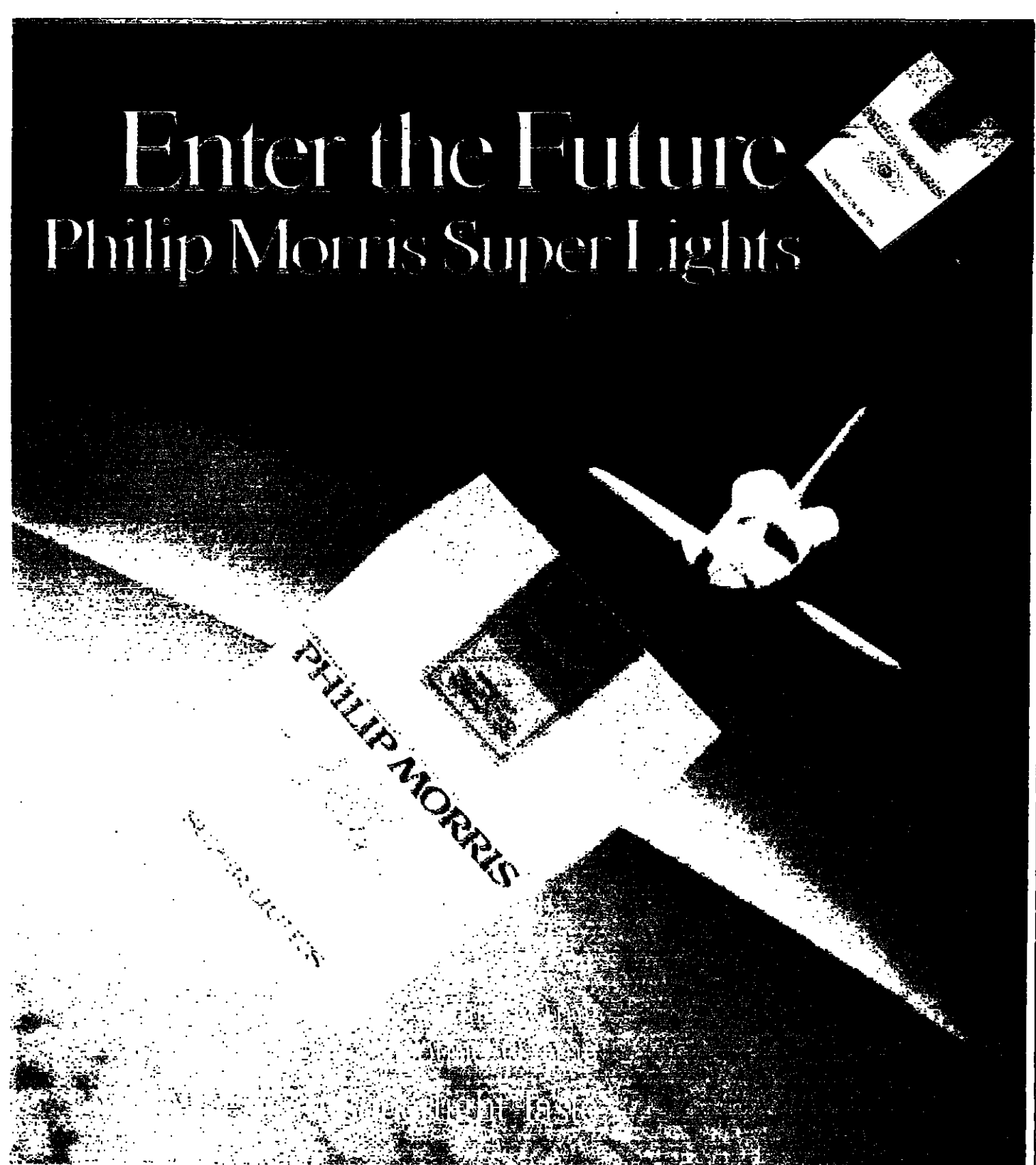
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Philip Morris Super Lights

GOVERNMENT WARNING: SMOKING IS A MAIN CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER AND DISEASES OF THE LUNGS, HEART AND ARTERIES.

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